

# first line of offense against common urinary tract invaders

## Gantanol B.I.D. (sulfamethoxazole)

### Basic therapy in nonobstructed cystitis\*

- Because it is active against susceptible strains of *E. coli* and other organisms
- Because it is effective in nonobstructed urinary tract infections such as cystitis, pyelonephritis and pyelitis
- Because it has high patient acceptance with convenient B.I.D. dosage
- Because it is economical
- Because it is available in two convenient dosage forms—tablets and suspension

Before prescribing, please consult complete product information, a summary of which follows:

**Indications:** Acute, recurrent or chronic nonobstructed urinary tract infections (primarily pyelonephritis, pyelitis and cystitis) due to susceptible organisms.

**Note:** Carefully coordinate *in vitro* sulfonamide sensitivity tests with bacteriologic and clinical response; add aminobenzole sold to follow-up culture media. The increasing frequency of resistant organisms limits the usefulness of antibacterials including sulfonamides, especially in chronic or recurrent urinary tract infections. Measure sulfonamide blood levels as variations may occur; 20 mg/100 ml should be maximum total level.

**Contraindications:** Sulfonamide hypersensitivity; pregnancy at term and during nursing period; infants less than two months of age.

**Warnings:** Safety during pregnancy has not been established. Sulfonamides should not be used for group A beta-hemolytic streptococcal infections and will not eradicate or prevent sequelae (rheumatic fever, glomerulonephritis) of such infections. Deaths from hypersensitivity reactions, agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia and other blood dyscrasias have been reported and early clinical signs (sore throat, fever, pallor, purpura or jaundice) may indicate serious blood disorders. Frequent CBC and urinalysis with microscopic examination are recommended during sulfonamide therapy. Insufficient data on children under six with chronic renal disease.

**Precautions:** Use cautiously in patients with impaired renal or hepatic function, severe allergy, bronchial asthma; in glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase-deficient individuals in whom dose-related hemolysis may occur. Maintain adequate fluid intake to prevent crystalluria and stone formation.

**Adverse Reactions:** Blood dyscrasias (agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia,

\*due to susceptible organisms such as *E. coli*, *Klebsiella-Aerobacter*, *Staph. aureus*, *Proteus mirabilis*, and, less frequently, *Proteus vulgaris*.

thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, hemolytic anemia, purpura, hypoprothrombinemia and methemoglobinemia); **allergic reactions** (erythema multiforme, skin eruptions, epidermal necrolysis, urticaria, serum sickness, pruritus, exfoliative dermatitis, anaphylactoid reactions, periorbital edema, conjunctival and scleral injection, photosensitization, arthralgia and allergic myocarditis); **gastrointestinal reactions** (nausea, emesis, abdominal pain, hepatitis, diarrhea, anorexia, pancreatitis and stomatitis); **CNS reactions** (headache, peripheral neuritis, mental depression, convulsions, ataxia, hallucinations, linnus, vertigo and insomnia); **miscellaneous reactions** (drug fever, chills, toxic nephrosis with oliguria and anuria, periarthritis nodosa and L.E. phenomenon). Due to certain chemical similarities with some gonitogens, diuretics (acetazolamide, thiazides) and oral hypoglycemic agents, sulfonamides have caused rare instances of gonit production, diuresis and hypoglycemia as well as thyroid malignancies in rats following long-term administration. Cross-sensitivity with these agents may exist.

**Dosage:** Systemic sulfonamides are contraindicated in infants under 2 months of age (except adjunctively with pyrimethamine in congenital toxoplasmosis).

**Usual adult dosage:** 2 Gm (4 tabs or teasp.) initially, then 1 Gm B.I.D. or I.I.D. depending on severity of infection.

**Usual child's dosage:** 0.5 Gm (1 tab or teasp.)/20 lbs of body weight initially, then 0.25 Gm/20 lbs B.I.D. Maximum dose should not exceed 75 mg/kg/24 hrs.

**Supplied:** Tablets, 0.5 Gm sulfamethoxazole; Suspension, 0.5 Gm sulfamethoxazole/teaspoonful.

**ROCHE** Roche Laboratories  
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#### RIGHT OF MINORS TO ABORTION

without parental consent will be argued in Boston before 3-judge federal panel in December when new Mass. law requiring parental consent comes up for hearing on its constitutionality. Two 16-year-olds who wanted abortions sued on constitutional grounds and were given 10 day stay. While temporary stay applies only to them, other minors seeking abortion could seek similar restraints.

**MUMPS** - The West Virginia Health Dept. is hoping for \$250,000 from the state legislature to combat an incidence of mumps several times that of the rest of the U.S. Problem has been relatively high cost of vaccine, and fact that Federal money for immunization programs is being cut 60%, health director Dr. N.H. Dyer told MT.

#### MOST FATAL AUTO CRASHES

are not caused by "habitual offenders", contrary to psychological precepts, report Dr. Leon S. Robertson of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and Susan P. Baker, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. They applied Virginia's habitual offender criteria to fatal crashes in Maryland, which has no such law, and found "only 22 ... of 1447 drivers in fatal crashes" could be classified as "habituals." Dr. Robertson told MT that identifying problem drivers before fatal crashes involves identifying problem drinkers in about 50% of the cases. More studies are underway.

#### A CIVIL WAR PHYSICIAN'S

Office and waiting room is being created by Cincinnati Academy of Medicine. Dr. Clyde S. Roof is leading its search for medical items of that period.

# Medical Tribune

Vol. 15, No. 43

world news of medicine and its practice—fast, accurate, complete

and Medical News

Wednesday, November 20, 1974

## Rauwolfia Studies Faulted for Methodology

Medical Tribune Report

ROCKVILLE, MD.—Three recent, widely publicized reports linking rauwolfia alkaloids with breast cancer were criticized for faulty methodology by various experts at a Food and Drug Administration meeting here.

The two-day meeting was held at

FDA headquarters by the agency's Biometric and Epidemiological Methodology and Cardiovascular and Renal Drug Advisory Committees. The two panels of outside consultants met in what amounted to an emergency session.

The reports, which appeared in the

September 21 issue of *Lancet*, were of studies conducted in Boston, in Bristol, England, and in Helsinki.

The first study was carried out by the Boston Collaborative Drug Surveillance Program in 24 Boston-area hospitals during the first 10 months of

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## New Breast Biopsy Avoids Disfigurement

By NATHAN HORWITZ

Medical Tribune Staff

MIAMI BEACH, FLA.—A new breast biopsy technique for very small nonpalpable lesions makes the procedure "palatable to any woman and guarantees freedom from disfigurement," the American College of Surgeons was told here.

In describing the method, Dr. Gordon F. Schwartz, of Jefferson Medical College, was sharply critical of those surgeons who call for "generous" biopsies of the breast as a way of ensuring removal of suspicious tissue. All too frequently, he told the A.C.S., such biopsies include removal of an entire quadrant, and "often approach simple mastectomy in their dimensions."

"Our patients are altogether correct

Continued on page 13

## PSRO Program Moving on Time As Foes Retreat

Medical Tribune Report

MIAMI BEACH, FLA.—Organized opposition to the Professional Standards Review Organization has come to a virtual standstill, and there's every prospect that a national PSRO program will be functioning on time.

That was the message the nation's PSRO chief brought to the annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons here, as he outlined a picture of "remarkable change" in the profession's attitude towards PSRO.

Dr. Henry E. Simmons, who had accused powerful segments of organized medicine just last spring of mounting a campaign of deliberate misrepresentation against the peer review program, told the surgeons that a striking about-face has "taken place in the last six months since the American Medical Association has modified its program."

"PSRO activity is taking place in all but six states, and by January, 1976, there will be PSRO's in all 203 designated PSRO areas in the United States," he declared.

Dr. Simmons said that "we no longer see the campaign of misrepresentation"

Continued on page 2

A new breast biopsy technique for very small nonpalpable lesions virtually eliminates the possibility of disfigurement by using repeat mammography and needle placement, above, to mark the precise location of the lesion.

## Schools Prodded to Tackle 'Ubiquitous' Worm Diseases

By FRANCES GOODNIGHT

Medical Tribune Staff

NEW YORK—It's time for schools to take discussions of pinworms and other nematodes out of the hush-hush category and set up programs to help reduce the incidence of intestinal parasitic infections among children, the American School Health Association was told here.

At a special seminar on such infections, president-elect Dr. Vivian K. Harlin of Seattle described them as a "ubiquitous" problem that is seldom

talked about at school health meetings even though pinworms affect an estimated 10 per cent of the U.S. population—mostly children.

A screening program conducted in one Texas school last spring revealed that 20 per cent of youngsters enrolled in kindergarten through the sixth grade had stools positive for intestinal parasites, according to Dr. Marietta Crowder, acting director of the Tyler-Smith County Health Department, Tyler, Tex.

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## Early Neonatal Meningitis Is Linked to Low Birth Weight

Medical Tribune World Service

TORONTO—All but 5 per cent of cases of early-onset neonatal meningitis are related to low birth weight or prematurity, Dr. Fred F. Barrett, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine, said here at an international Symposium on Infections in the Fetus and Newborn, sponsored by the Canadian Pediatric Society.

Streptococcal B infections are a significant new problem for neonates, he said, noting that such infections now cause about 65 per cent of all neonatal meningitis, compared with 33 per cent in 1970.

"It may have been a problem in earlier years but we didn't recognize it," he remarked.

Dr. Barrett, deputy director of the infectious diseases program at the Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, spoke on "Changing Patterns of Bacterial Infections."

### Would Focus on Risk Factors

Referring to the association of birth weight and prematurity with meningitis, he said: "We have to focus down on these risk factors. The mothers in this risk group should be watched carefully and a certain number should be treated expectantly. I wouldn't call this prophylaxis, I'd call it early treatment."

Early-onset meningitis, symptoms appearing after five days, results in a mortality of 60-75 per cent, whereas

late-onset disease, symptoms after 10 days, results in 14-18 per cent, Dr. Barrett said.

In contrast to the high correlation between the early-onset disease and obstetrical complications, only 19 per cent of the late-onset cases showed such difficulties, he noted.

Of patients with early onset, 86 per cent had positive signs of streptococcal infection, while 14 per cent were heavily colonized early in life, he said.

"The organisms isolated from multiple sites suggested that the early-onset disease was acquired in utero or from the mother at time of delivery," Dr. Barrett said. "The mortality is high because probably many are infected in utero. These infants are sicker for a

longer time than their age indicates. We must recognize the risk pattern earlier than we do now and treat them earlier, and recognize the risk pattern and treat them earlier."

Of 200 mothers randomly selected in term, he reported, 25 per cent were colonized at one or more sites, and 75 per cent of the offspring were colonized. Obstetrical difficulties are not related to the risk of colonization.

Symptoms of early-onset disease are unexplained episodes of apnea and high frequency of seizures, whereas in

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## PSRO Program Moving on Time As Foes Retreat

Continued from page 1

that, he declared, had been occurring last year. "Already there are 115 PSRO's under development, 10 are actually reviewing cases, and by the next funding cycle, we expect to see another 40 or 50 PSRO's, or about 150 by next year."

He told a news conference that some state-wide medical groups that had been most outspoken against the PSRO proposals have become more muted, since the A.M.A.'s House of Delegates last June called for debate with PSRO.

"When I go back to private practice, I hope to see a PSRO in my area," he stated. "It's the best protection I have."

A leading surgeon told the newsmen that further debate on the law is "an exercise in futility." Dr. George R. Dunlop of Worcester, Mass., vice-chairman of the A.C.S. Board of Regents, declared: "The PSRO law is a fact of life, it's the law of the land. Let's not waste energies debating its merits or how it came about."

He said there has been less opposition to PSRO among surgeons than among some other specialties, because "surgeons are traditionally accustomed to working in an environment where they are scrutinized by their colleagues; they are accustomed to peer review and to retrospective analysis."

He added: "By and large those segments of the profession who are accustomed to working in this environment feel a little more secure with PSRO. That segment of the profession not accustomed to working in this environment feels less secure, more hostile. When they find what is entailed, they'll feel less threatened." —N.H.

## Shriver Bids AMA Yield Spokesman Role to APHA

Medical Tribune Report

NEW ORLEANS—The American Medical Association should relinquish its role as the spokesman for the nation's physicians, according to Sargent Shriver, the original director of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

"I would like to suggest that the American Public Health Association become the voice of American medicine instead of the A.M.A.," he told the A.P.H.A.'s annual meeting.

Wednesday, November 20, 1974

MEDICAL TRIBUNE

## 'Structured' Counselor Role With Married Patients Urged

Medical Tribune Report

LOS ANGELES—The family physician should play a "well structured role" of marriage counselor for his patients—even to the point of recommending divorce at times, Dr. Beverley T. Mead told the 26th Annual Scientific Assembly of the American Academy of Physicians in Los Angeles.

"You should step in with specific advice when it is needed rather than wasting time with the slow-paced indirect approach favored by some psychiatrists," said Dr. Mead, Professor and head of the Department of Psychiatry at Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha. The more structured approach taken by the family physician, he said should involve prevention of marital troubles before they occur as well as counseling those patients who already have difficulties.

"In some cases when you find that divorce is the best answer to well-

established problems you should tell your patients so," he suggested. "It may be true that a child suffers in a broken home, but he or she may suffer more in a home that should be broken."

However, if one partner wants a divorce and the other does not, it is often possible to restore the union by convincing the negative one to stick it out a little longer. "If they struggled along for six years, with a better understanding of their problems, they should do themselves the favor of seeing whether or not they can struggle successfully through another three weeks," Dr. Mead said.

The Nebraska psychiatrist also told the A.A.F.P. that family physicians should play a role in discouraging marriages when the couple is obviously poorly prepared or mismatched. He recommended especially against teenage marriages.



DR. BEVERLEY T. MEAD

"Marriage is for grownups. If I could do it, I'd support legislation against marriage before the age of 21."

In their pre-marriage counseling, family physicians should probe their patients' attitudes on many fronts,

Continued on page 13

## Small Vitamin C Doses 'Just as Good' in Colds

Medical Tribune Staff

NEW YORK—The newest findings in large-scale Canadian trials of vitamin C suggest that ascorbic acid prevents or reduces the symptoms of colds in far smaller doses than have been recommended.

Dr. Terence W. Anderson, Professor of Epidemiology and Biometrics at the University of Toronto, reported that a double-blind study of 600 healthy volunteers—the latest in three trials with a cumulative total of nearly 5,000 subjects—has shown that "relatively modest" intake of vitamin C "may be sufficient to produce a useful reduction in over-all morbidity [of colds]."

"Tissue saturation is apparently achieved with 100 mg. of ascorbic acid daily, and there appears to be no benefit in dosages above that," he declared, noting that results of the last trial were approximately the same as those of the two earlier ones, with 30 per cent fewer days of absence from work or spent indoors among the vitamin group as compared with placebo subjects.

Dr. Anderson spoke at an international conference on vitamin C jointly sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Human Nutrition at Columbia University.

In the latest study, he said, the volunteers received a prophylactic ascorbic acid dose of 500 mg. weekly in sustained-release form during the three-month trial. The dosage was increased to 500 mg. daily on the first day of illness, and continued if needed at 12-hour intervals for the next four days. These schedules were in marked contrast to prophylactic and therapeutic doses ranging as high as 4 Gm. daily in the two earlier trials, Dr. Anderson reported.

All three trials, he continued, now have shown "a small vitamin effect on the number of [cold] episodes per subject, but a more substantial effect on the days indoors or off work. Similarly, all have shown consistently little or no effect on days of nasal symptoms (thus casting some doubt on the antihistamine theory of vitamin C action), while

there have been some large but inconsistent effects on days of chest symptoms, fever, and malaise."

The benefits occurring regardless of the dose employed, he added, suggest that the dosages used in the team's first trial were "probably unnecessarily high."

In commenting on the group's overall experience, Dr. Anderson observed that a "host of secondary questions" presented themselves as evidence began to accumulate in the first two trials suggesting that Vitamin C does exert "some sort of effect." Of these questions, the most important was, "If large doses are necessary does the risk of side effects outweigh the possible benefits? It was largely in order to resolve this and related problems that the third trial was undertaken."

### No Toxicity Observed

Dr. Anderson stressed that he and his team have seen no symptomatic evidence of toxicity resulting from doses of 2,000 mg. daily over three or four months in healthy persons, but "this does not mean that this dose level is necessarily safe for longer periods, particularly in individuals with pre-existing disease, or that the occasional individual might not show some unusual and undesirable reaction."

He also warned: "While perhaps not a side effect in the ordinary sense of the word, the depression in blood ascorbic levels that occurs on sudden withdrawal of a chronic high intake should be recognized as a potentially harmful reaction. For example, an individual admitted to a hospital with an acute medical or surgical condition might be at a physiological disadvantage if this period of unusual stress coincided with an acute hyposcorbemia due to sudden withdrawal of a regular high intake."

He concluded that "unless and until firm evidence is forthcoming that higher doses of vitamin C are more effective, we should adhere to the principle of *primum non nocere* and advise the public to limit their daily

intake to 100 or 200 mg. except possibly for brief periods during acute infection when gram doses may be beneficial."

At a press conference, Dr. Anderson emphasized that "it is quite possible" that the beneficial effects observed during the trials were not more than symptomatic. "We were only recording symptoms as reported by the subjects," he said. "We didn't have the facilities for serologic or virologic studies."

Two leading investigators at the press conference joined in calling for moderation in the use of ascorbic acid. Dr. Myron Winick, director of Columbia's Institute of Human Nutrition, declared: "When people talk about giving vitamin C in doses of 10 Gm. a day, they're talking about quantities in the category of therapeutic agents. I would not want to see vitamin C on the market as a therapeutic agent until its safety in that range is appropriately demonstrated."

Alfred E. Harper, Ph.D., of the University of Wisconsin, also cautioned against using vitamin C "as a drug to treat conditions that are not caused by the absence of the compound as a result of nutritional deficiencies."

Dr. Harper, who is former chairman of the Committee on Dietary Allowances of the National Nutrition Council/National Academy of Sciences, said, "We have to separate the nutritional and therapeutic uses of nutrients and see how they compare with other drugs used to treat the same disorders."

### ECTOPIC BEAT

"It isn't absolutely necessary for executives to have heart disease, ulcers and stroke, ailments commonly associated with American businessmen who reach the management level."

—News release from the A.M.A. But it's still kind of *de rigueur* isn't it?

(Register beats *Immortal* Media, page 22.)

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CLINICAL NEWS NOTE: "Using this technique, we have noted our patients are less anxious when biopsy is recommended, because they are sure of a minimal operation, with a short hospital stay. No patient, subsequently discovered to have benign [breast] disease, has been sorry she underwent the operation, since no disfigurement has resulted. Patient acceptance has been universally excellent." (Dr. Gordon F. Schwartz, see pg. 1.)

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Circulation audited by Business Publications Audit of Circulation, Inc.

MEDICAL TRIBUNE is published each Wednesday except on Jan. 30, May 29, July 31, and Oct. 30, by Medical Tribune, Inc., 880 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Controlled circulation postage paid at Vineland, N.J. Subscription \$25.00, Students \$7.50.



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\*Indications: Based on a review of this drug by the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council and/or other information, FDA has classified the indications as follows: "Possibly" effective: For use to relieve pain, in "conditions in which combined sedative and analgesic action is desired, such as, nervous tension and sleeplessness associated with pain or headache." Final classification of the less-than-effective indications requires further investigation.

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## Enzymes Help Differentiate Infarction, Gauge Infarct Size

Medical Tribune World Service

**BUENOS AIRES**—The detection in serum of one enzyme (glycogen phosphorylase *b*) can help differentiate myocardial infarction from noncardiac myopathies. Serial determinations of another enzyme (creatine phosphokinase) are a "valuable method for intravital estimation of infarct size."

Separate research teams presented these two conclusions to the Seventh World Congress of Cardiology here.

Glycogen phosphorylase *b* is absent or undetectable in the serum until about two hours after the onset of myocardial infarction, and the level peaks about 24 hours after infarction, reported Drs. A. Wollenberger, M. Böhm, E. G. Krause, and H. Will, of the Central Institute of Heart and Circulatory Regulation Research, Academy of Sciences of the East German Democratic Republic, Berlin-Buch.

The only disorders other than myocardial infarction that have previously been shown to produce detectable serum levels of phosphorylase *b* are encephalomalacia and noncardiac myopathies, including dermatomyositis and dystrophy, according to these investigators.

### Differentiating Infarction

"The heart-specific striated muscle phosphorylase *b* isoenzyme can be separated from other muscle isophosphorylases by acrylamide gel electrophoresis," Dr. Wollenberger explained, "thus permitting the differentiation of myocardial infarction from noncardiac myopathies."

Serum levels of phosphorylase *b* in seven patients who died between the first and fourth day after myocardial infarction were compared with those of 51 patients who survived infarction. Blood samples were taken between 20 and 30 hours after infarction.

"Patients who did not survive had much higher serum phosphorylase *b* levels than those who survived," Dr.

Wollenberger said. "Thus, the determination of serum phosphorylase *b* may have prognostic value in myocardial infarction."

### Serial Determinations of CPK Indicate Size of Infarct

► Infarct size was calculated in 32 patients with acute myocardial infarction by serial determinations of CPK, reported Drs. W. Bleifeld, D. Mathey, and P. Hanrath, of the Department of Internal Medicine, Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule, Aachen, West Germany.

They determined CPK concentration every two hours after the infarction for the first 20 hours, and then every four hours, and these data were re-

lated to hemodynamic data. In 10 human hearts, infarct size was measured post mortem and correlated to infarct size as calculated from serial determinations of CPK.

There was an "excellent correlation" between calculated infarct size and infarct size as determined at autopsy, Dr. Bleifeld said. Infarct size correlated well with the deterioration of hemodynamics, and he blamed "differences in this relation" on previous lesions of the left ventricle.

In 25 patients who were suffering from their first myocardial infarction, mean left-ventricular necrosis was 66 Gm., pulmonary end-diastolic pressure increased to 20 mm. Hg, and cardiac index decreased to 2.9 L./minute/M.<sup>2</sup>

The remaining seven patients who had previous myocardial infarctions had a "relatively small" infarct size (mean 38 Gm.), but a "markedly increased" pulmonary end-diastolic pressure of 23 mm. Hg, and a reduced cardiac index of 2.5 L./minute/M.<sup>2</sup>

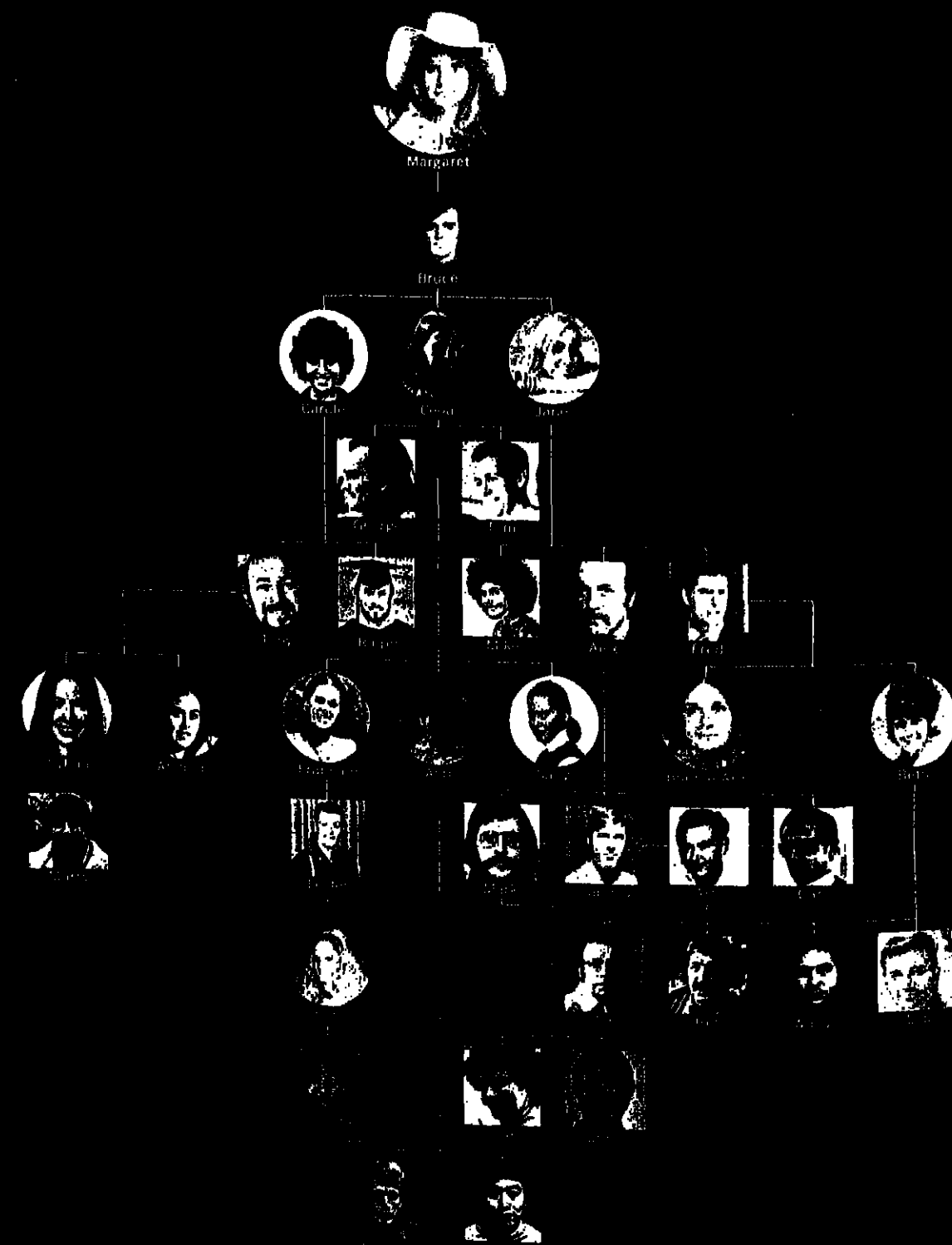
### Aid to Prognosis and Therapy

"In conjunction with hemodynamic data," Dr. Bleifeld said, "evaluation of infarct size reveals a better understanding of the functional state of the heart, the prognosis and therapeutic interventions."

The mass and the functional state of the residual myocardium, rather than the size of the acute infarct itself, determines pump function, he said.

## Margaret's contribution to gonorrhea:

The genealogy of an epidemic.



### Current Opinion

## Heavy Drinking, Smoking, and Cancer

By MARK KELLER

Research Specialist in Documentation  
Center of Alcohol Studies, Rutgers University;  
Visiting Scientist  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

IN THE ARTICLE by Nathan Horwitz (MT, Aug. 14) three experts are cited as asking for clarification of the statement by Dr. Morris E. Chafetz, Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, that "the combination of heavy drinking and smoking increased by 15-fold the risk of mouth and throat cancer."

The statement is based on the review of the subject in Chapter V, Part 1, of the *Second Special Report to the U.S. Congress on Alcohol and Health*, prepared by a Task Force under Dr. Chafetz's chairmanship and published under my editorship. The particular statement is referenced to the study by

Drs. Kenneth Rothman and Andrew Keller, in the *J. Chronic Dis.*, 25: 711-716, 1972.

Their Table 2 (p. 713) shows that, with the risk of oral cancer for people who neither smoke nor drink set at 1, the risk for those who are both heaviest drinkers and heaviest smokers is

15.50. That finding was based on a sophisticated regression analysis of 483 cancer patients and a matched control group of 447 people, all patients in three VA hospitals in New York City, from whom adequate drinking and smoking histories were obtained. In addition, the *Report* cites several other studies which show a decided increase of relative risk of oral cancer from combined heavy smoking and heavy drinking.

Horwitz's article quotes the three authorities also to the effect that they have had great difficulty in gathering enough cases of heavy-drinking non-smokers to establish the relative risk of heavy alcohol consumption alone. This problem is recognized and emphasized in the *Report*. But it was overcome at least in the recent study by Drs. Rothman and Keller who, in

their Table 2, show also that with the risk of oral cancer set at 1 for non-drinking nonsmokers, the risk for heavy smokers who do not drink is 2.43, and the risk for heavy drinkers who do not smoke is practically identical, 2.33. These statistics formed the basis for Dr. Chafetz's statement of an increased risk from heavy alcohol consumption alone.

Many experts were unconvinced by the Surgeon General's original announcement of increased risk from cigarette smoking, which aroused worldwide debate. Nevertheless it was the duty of the Surgeon General to make the information he had available to the American public and to the physicians who advise them about their health. It was likewise the duty of the Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to share the information available to him. This has been done in great detail with full documentation in the *Second Report to Congress on Alcohol and Health*, freely available from NIAAA (5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Md. 20852).

The three authorities interviewed by Horwitz rightly urged the need for more research. The *Report* not only discusses the cautions appropriate for interpreting the existing data but likewise emphasizes the need for more research. The National Institute is indeed fostering such additional research, among others by the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer, and in due course will make the results known to the health professions and the American public.

The one disturbing feature in Horwitz's article is the quotation of Dr. Ernest P. Wynder to the effect that "Heavy drinking by itself does not increase the risk of cancer . . . in the absence of smoking." It is not understandable how Dr. Wynder can be so positive. If his samples contained too few nonsmoking heavy drinkers to conclude there is an increased risk, then obviously there were too few to conclude there is no increased risk, and the most he could say is that his evidence is inconclusive.

Ten papers by Dr. Wynder and his associates are cited in the *Report*, dated between 1956 and 1972. In one (*Cancer*, 10: 1300-1323, 1957) they say (p. 1306), "In our data two factors, alcohol and tobacco, seem to increase the risk of oral cancer when each is considered separately," but in none of them is there any evidence that "Heavy drinking by itself does not increase the risk of cancer." I would hate to be the author of such a guarantee, even if it did not go against the demonstration of the opposite by Rothman and Keller. Since the statement can be harmfully misleading, I am sure MEDICAL TRIBUNE will want to set the record straight.

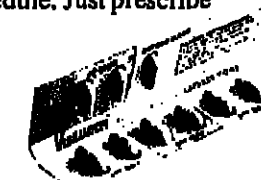
The *Report*, and Dr. Chafetz's statement, did not implicate moderate drinking, nor was it suggested that alcohol can cause cancer. The explicit emphasis was the increased risk from heavy drinking, and the added or synergistic risk from combined heavy drinking and smoking. We all need to think about the first risk as well as the second, even while waiting the years it may take for the desirable additional research to be completed.

## Our contribution: Vibramycin® Hyclate (doxycycline hyclate)

A simple oral therapeutic regimen. An excellent choice when penicillin is contraindicated or ineffective.

Probably the number-one cause of the continued widespread occurrence of gonorrhea is the asymptomatic and unsuspecting female carrier—unknowingly transmitting the disease to countless others. The treatment? For penicillin-sensitive patients or penicillin-resistant strains of gonococcus, Vibramycin may well be the answer. A simple dosage regimen.

Requires only nine 100-mg. capsules over a four-day treatment period—so there's less chance of skipping medication. And no absorption problem.\* Reaches therapeutic blood levels even when taken with food or milk. Nine-Pak: Special package design and simple instructions make it easy for the patient to follow the dosage schedule. Just prescribe "Vibramycin Nine-Pak. Sig.: As directed."



Also new single-visit dose: When a single-visit dose is desired, Vibramycin should be administered on a full stomach, 300 mg. stat followed by 300 mg. one hour later.

**VIBRAMYCIN® (doxycycline) BRIEF SUMMARY**  
Vibramycin® Hyclate (doxycycline hyclate) Capsules and Vibramycin® Monohydrate (doxycycline monohydrate) for Oral Suspension

Contraindications: In persons hypersensitive to any of the tetracyclines.

Warnings: Use of tetracyclines during the last half of pregnancy, infancy and childhood to the age of 8 years may cause permanent discoloration of developing teeth. This is more common during long-term use of the tetracyclines but has been observed following repeated short-term courses. Enamel hypoplasia has also been reported. Thus, tetracyclines should not be used in this age group unless other drugs are not likely to be effective or are contraindicated. Individuals receiving the tetracycline antibiotics should be advised that direct sunlight or ultraviolet light can cause photosensitivity reactions. If these reactions (exaggerated sunburn) occur, discontinue therapy. Doxycycline forms a stable calcium complex in any bone-forming tissue. Fibular growth has been decreased in premature infants given oral tetracycline 25 mg/kg q. 6 h., but this reaction was reversible when the drug was discontinued.

The antianabolic action of the tetracyclines may cause an increase in BUN. Studies to date indicate that this does not occur with the use of Vibramycin in patients with impaired renal function.

Animal studies indicate that tetracyclines cross the placenta, are found in fetal tissues and can have toxic effects on the developing fetus. Evidence of embryotoxicity has also been noted in animals treated early in pregnancy.

Tetracyclines are present in the milk of lactating women who are taking a drug in this class.

Precautions: Overgrowth of nonsusceptible organisms may occur, including fungi. If such superinfections are encountered, discontinue Vibramycin and institute appropriate therapy.

In venereal disease when consistent syphilis is suspected, a dark-field examination should be done before initiating therapy. Conduct monthly serological tests for at least 4 months.

Because tetracyclines depress plasma prothrombin activity, patients on anticoagulant therapy may require downward adjustment in their anticoagulant dosage.

In long-term therapy, conduct periodic laboratory evaluation of organ systems, including hematopoietic, renal and hepatic.

Treat all Group A beta-hemolytic streptococcal infections for at least 10 days. (For upper respiratory infections due to Group A beta-hemolytic streptococci, penicillin is the usual drug of choice, including prophylaxis of rheumatic fever.)

Avoid giving doxycycline with penicillin because of possible interference with penicillin activity.

Adverse Reactions: Anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, glossitis, dysphagia, enterocolitis, inflammatory lesions (with monilial overgrowth) in the anogenital region, maculopapular and erythematous rashes, exfoliative dermatitis, photosensitivity, urticaria, angioneurotic edema, anaphylaxis, anaphylactoid purpura, pericarditis, exacerbation of systemic lupus erythematosus, hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, neutropenia and eosinophilia have been reported. Prolonged administration of tetracyclines may produce brown-black microscopic discoloration of thyroid glands. No abnormalities of thyroid function studies are known to occur. Bulging fontanelles have been reported in young infants on therapeutic dosage but disappeared when the drug was discontinued. A dose-related rise in BUN has been reported.

**Adult Dosage: DOSAGE AND FREQUENCY OF ADMINISTRATION OF DOXYCYCLINE DIFFERS FROM THAT OF OTHER TETRACYCLINES. EXCEEDING RECOMMENDED DOSAGE MAY PRODUCE INCREASED INCIDENCE OF SIDE EFFECTS.**  
The usual dose of Vibramycin is 200 mg. on the first day (administered 100 mg. every 12 hours) followed by a maintenance dose of 100 mg./day. The maintenance dose may be administered as a single dose, or as 50 mg. every 12 hours. In more severe infections (particularly chronic infections of the urinary tract), 100 mg. every 12 hours is recommended.

See package insert for recommended dosage schedules for children. When used in streptococcal infections, therapy should be continued for 10 days.

Acute gonococcal infections: 200 mg. stat, and 100 mg. at bedtime, the first day, followed by 100 mg. b.i.d. for 3 days.

As an alternate single-visit dose, administer 300 mg. stat followed in one hour by a second 300-mg. dose. The dose may be administered with food, including milk or carbonated beverage, as required.

Primary and secondary syphilis: 300 mg. a day in divided doses for at least 10 days.

If gastric irritation occurs, it is recommended that Vibramycin be given with food or milk. The absorption of Vibramycin is not markedly influenced by simultaneous ingestion of food or milk. Antacids containing aluminum, calcium, or magnesium impair absorption and should not be given concomitantly to patients taking oral Vibramycin.

Studies to date have indicated that Vibramycin, at the usual recommended doses, does not lead to accumulation of the antibiotic in patients with renal impairment.

More detailed professional information available on request.

\*Antacids containing aluminum, calcium or magnesium impair absorption and should not be given concomitantly to patients taking oral Vibramycin.

**Vibramycin® Hyclate**  
(doxycycline hyclate) A semi-synthetic tetracycline  
Capsules equivalent to 50 mg. and 100 mg. doxycycline  
LABORATORIES DIVISION  
PARKE-DAVIS

# Why add Librium® (chlordiazepoxide HCl) to your gastrointestinal regimen?

Excessive anxiety in susceptible patients can set in motion a chain of responses, the end results of which may be gastric hypersecretion and intestinal hypermotility; such processes may aggravate organic gastrointestinal disorders and impair the effectiveness of medi-



cal management. Furthermore, intense anxiety can interfere with patient cooperation in following your therapeutic directives. When counseling and reassurance alone are inadequate to relieve undue anxiety, adjunctive Librium (chlordiazepoxide HCl) may be beneficial.

Before prescribing, please consult complete product information, a summary of which follows:

**Indications:** Relief of anxiety and tension occurring alone or accompanying various disease states.

**Contraindications:** Patients with known hypersensitivity to the drug.

**Warnings:** Caution patients about possible combined effects with alcohol and other CNS depressants. As with all CNS-acting drugs, caution patients against hazardous occupations requiring complete mental alertness (e.g., operating machinery, driving). Though physical and psychological dependence have rarely been reported on recommended doses, use caution in administering to addiction-prone individuals or those who might increase dosage; withdrawal symptoms (including convulsions), following discon-

tinuation of the drug and similar to those seen with barbiturates, have been reported. Use of any drug in pregnancy, lactation, or in women of childbearing age requires that its potential benefits be weighed against its possible hazards.

**Precautions:** In the elderly and debilitated, and in children over six, limit to smallest effective dosage (initially 10 mg or less per day) to preclude ataxia or oversedation, increasing gradually as needed and tolerated. Not recommended in children under six. Though generally not recommended, if combination therapy with other psychotropics seems indicated, carefully consider individual pharmacologic effects, particularly in use of potentiating drugs such as MAO inhibitors and phenothiazines. Observe usual precautions in presence of impaired renal or hepatic function. Paradoxical reactions (e.g., excitement, stimula-

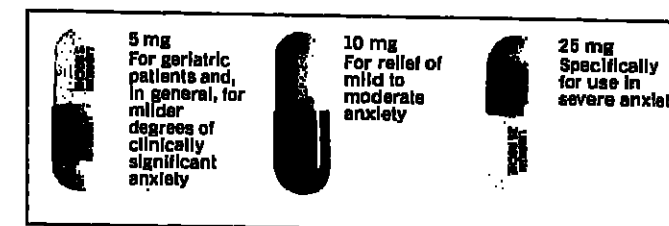
"Specific" for anxiety reduction... wide margin of safety

Librium (chlordiazepoxide HCl) is used as an adjunct to primary gastrointestinal medications since it acts directly on the central nervous system, reducing excessive anxiety and emotional tension. In so doing, Librium indirectly affects gastrointestinal function.

Librium has a high degree of efficacy with a wide margin of safety. In proper dosage, Librium usually helps calm the overanxious patient without unduly interfering with mental acuity or general performance. In the elderly and debilitated, the initial dosage is 5 mg *b.i.d.* or less to preclude ataxia or oversedation, increasing gradually as needed and tolerated.

Librium is used concomi-

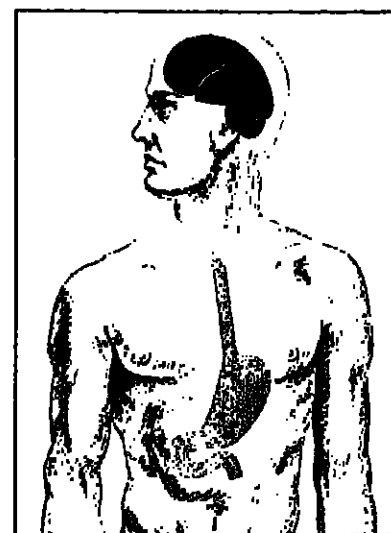
tantly with certain specific medications of other classes of drugs, such as anticholinergics and antacids. After anxiety has been reduced to tolerable levels, Librium (chlordiazepoxide HCl) therapy should be discontinued.



For relief of excessive anxiety  
adjunctive

## Librium® 10 mg (chlordiazepoxide HCl)

1 or 2 capsules t.i.d./q.i.d.



tion and acute rage) have been reported in psychiatric patients and hyperactive aggressive children. Employ usual precautions in treatment of anxiety states with evidence of impending depression; suicidal tendencies may be present and protective measures necessary. Variable effects on blood coagulation have been reported very rarely in patients receiving the drug and oral anticoagulants; causal relationship has not been established clinically.

**Adverse Reactions:** Drowsiness, ataxia and confusion may occur, especially in the elderly and debilitated. These are reversible in most instances by proper dosage adjustment, but are also occasionally observed at the lower dosage ranges. In a few instances syncope has been reported. Also encountered are isolated instances of skin eruptions, edema, minor menstrual

irregularities, nausea and constipation, extrapyramidal symptoms, increased and decreased libido—all infrequent and generally controlled with dosage reduction; changes in EEO patterns (low-voltage fast activity) may appear during and after treatment; blood dyscrasias (including agranulocytosis), jaundice and hepatic dysfunction have been reported occasionally, making periodic blood counts and liver function tests advisable during protracted therapy.

**Supplied:** Librium® Capsules containing 5 mg, 10 mg or 25 mg chlordiazepoxide HCl. Libritabs® Tablets containing 5 mg, 10 mg or 25 mg chlordiazepoxide.

Roche Laboratories  
Division of Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.  
Nutley, New Jersey 07110



## Embolization Curbs Upper Gastric Bleeding

Medical Tribune Report

SAN FRANCISCO—Selective embolization of the left gastric artery controlled upper gastric bleeding in eight of 11 patients, demonstrating that the technique is a feasible alternative to arterial vasopressin infusion, according to a Michigan study.

Dr. Vincent P. Chuang of Ann Arbor reported at the American Roentgen Ray Society meeting here that embolization appears to offer two advantages.

The technique, in which the left gastric artery is embolized with aminocaproic-acid-mixed autogenous blood clot, autogenous fat globules, sterile oxidized cellulose, or absorbable gelatin sponge, is simple and results are immediate, he said.

And he emphasized that since the patient is not given large doses of vasoconstricting drugs, no monitoring is required for side effects.

Dr. Chuang said that while further experience is needed, preliminary results are promising. Ten of the 11 patients treated with the technique at the Wayne County General Hospital were terminal bleeders in whom heart, lung, renal, or liver complications precluded surgery, he related.

### Success Rate 70%

The success rate in this group was 70 per cent and would probably have been higher if the patients had not been terminal bleeders, he said.

Seven of the patients in whom the technique was successful are alive and

well two to 14 months after the procedure, with no recurrence of bleeding, Dr. Chuang reported. The eighth patient died of pneumonia unrelated to the gastric bleeding 11 months after embolization and with no evidence of further bleeding, he added.

Of the three failures, two patients had diffuse hemorrhagic gastric bleeding and died of complications and one had a large gastric ulcer, he said.

The gastric mucosa was observed in six of the patients one to five days after embolization, he continued. Five showed no evidence of mucosal necrosis and one showed scattered areas of mucosal slough.

Dr. Chuang noted that vasopressin infusion is indicated in patients with gastritis.

## Learn Self-Examination



Many hospitals, like New York City's Lenox Hill (above), have started classes to teach women how to examine themselves for signs of breast cancer because of the increased demand for information following the recent operations on Betty Ford and Happy Rockefeller.

## Radon Seeds Put Eye Melanoma Under Control

Medical Tribune Report

SAN FRANCISCO—Local irradiation with radon seeds can provide local control of malignant melanoma of the eye in a majority of patients, an Ohio State study has indicated.

Dr. Gunther Ehlers reported to the American Roentgen Ray Society that the technique, in which a ring applicator 2 mm. larger than the tumor and filled with radon seeds for a dose of 6,000-9,000 roentgens is implanted in the affected eye, has provided local control in 61 per cent of the patients evaluated.

In these patients, enucleation was avoided, vision saved, and metastases apparently prevented, he said.

He reported on 18 patients. In seven the technique was not successful and enucleation was performed in six.

### Enucleation Often Fails

Dr. Ehlers noted that enucleation frequently fails to cure primary malignant ocular melanoma and approximately half the patients succumb to metastatic disease.

He suggested that the more conservative approach with local irradiation might be used for selected patients. The failures of this technique appeared to be related more to the size of the tumor than the dose, he remarked, adding that the technique was most effective with tumors between 5 and 10 mm. in diameter.

The implanted ring is left in place indefinitely. Complications have been seen in half the patients, but have seldom been severe and have resolved spontaneously. Patients are being followed carefully to be sure no long-term complications develop, Dr. Ehlers added.

## The overweight diabetic... trapped by her own fat cells.

If only she would diet, her blood sugar might come down. Her high levels of blood insulin might come down, too. This may be important in the overweight diabetic since insulin is the "storage hormone" that transports glucose into adipose tissue. Maybe the last thing the overweight diabetic needs to lower her blood sugar is a drug that stimulates more insulin secretion.

If dieting doesn't work in the overweight, nonketotic, adult-onset diabetic, consider adding DBI-TD.

## DBI-TD<sup>®</sup> Geigy phenformin HCl

Lowers blood sugar without raising blood insulin.



DBI-TD<sup>®</sup> phenformin HCl Tablets of 25 mg.  
DBI-TD<sup>®</sup> phenformin HCl  
Time-Disintegrating Capsules of 50 and 100 mg.

**Indications:** Stable adult diabetes mellitus; sulfonylurea failure, primary and secondary; adjunct to insulin therapy of unstable diabetes mellitus.  
**Contraindications:** Diabetes mellitus that can be regulated by diet alone; juvenile diabetes mellitus; that is uncompensated and well regulated on insulin; acute complications of diabetes mellitus (metabolic acidosis, coma, infection, gangrene); during or immediately after surgery where insulin is indispensable; severe hepatic disease; renal disease with pre-renal cardiovascular collapse (shock); pregnancy; use during pregnancy is to be avoided.  
**Warnings:** 1. Starvation ketosis: This must be ruled out from "insulin lack" ketosis and is characterized by ketonuria which, in spite of relatively normal blood and urine sugar, may result from excessive phenformin therapy, excessive insulin reduction, or insufficient carbohydrate intake. Actual insulin dosage, lower phenformin dosage, or supply carbohydrate to alleviate this state. Do not give insulin without first checking blood and urine sugar.  
2. Lactic Acidosis: This drug is not recommended in the presence of acetone or in any clinical situation that predisposes to sustained hypotension that could lead to lactic acidosis. To differentiate lactic acidosis from ketonuria, periodic determinations of ketones in the blood and urine should be made in diabetic patients previously stabilized on phenformin, or phenformin and insulin, who have been treated. Periodic determinations should also be made of electrolytes, pH, and the lactate-pyruvate ratio. The drug should be withdrawn and insulin instituted immediately upon the appearance of any of the following signs:  
a. Hypoglycemia: Although hypoglycemia is rare when phenformin is used alone, every precaution should be observed during the dose adjustment period particularly when insulin or a sulfonylurea has been given in combination with phenformin.  
**Adverse Reactions:** Principally gastrointestinal: unpleasant metallic taste, continuing to anorexia, nausea and, less frequently, vomiting and diarrhea. Reduce dosage at first sign of these symptoms. In case of vomiting, the drug should be immediately stopped, as have gastrointestinal symptoms such as anorexia, nausea and vomiting following excessive alcohol intake. (N) 99-140-105-B (8/72)

For complete details, including dosage, please see full prescribing information.  
GEIGY Pharmaceuticals  
Division of CIBA-GEIGY Corporation  
Ardsley, New York 10502

DBI-10225

## One Man...and Medicine

ARTHUR M. SACKLER, M.D.,  
International Publisher, Medical Tribune



### Thirty-Dollar Steaks?

I DON'T BELIEVE the full implication of inflation has yet hit home to the American people. Most of our patients see it as a reduction in salary, as an inconvenience, albeit outrageous. I wonder if our people completely understand its potential impact on our national health. Of course, medicine in this country has played a great role in reducing infant mortality (not yet enough), in increasing longevity (not yet enough), and in raising the standards of health (not yet enough). But has not the real substrate for most of our health advances been improvements in nutrition, in housing, in working conditions, as well as in a few basic public health measures?

During the summer we laboriously tracked down the most recent official Bureau of Labor price statistics giving national average prices on some important foods during July, 1974—and July, 1973. They are based on a sample of 39 metropolitan areas and 17 smaller cities. I publish them in the box below—so that you can go shopping and make your own comparisons. For since then prices have soared, making these figures completely out-of-date.

### Latest Figures

According to the Labor Department's Consumer Price Index, by October prices had made their biggest jump since 1947. The increase in all consumer prices was 12.1 for the year—and for food alone was 11.3 per cent. In September the biggest increases were meat, fish and poultry—up 3.2 per cent that month.

I am told that steak is going for \$5 a pound in some neighborhoods. Who ever heard of fish selling at nearly two

bucks a pound? I do remember last year in Japan that I was told housewives were paying as much as \$16 for a pound of steak and for top-quality strip sirloin over \$30. Of course, I thought, "It can never happen here." But, it seems, we are well on our way. Needless to say, one can eat flounder and save a dollar or a dollar and a half per pound over sole. And chicken can save even more.

The positive side of this coin is that the affluent will eat less steak, more fish and chicken, and be the better for it. Of course, the very affluent won't, and so they will miss the benefit of less cardiovascular disease and that wonderful feeling of fitness which one euphorically enjoys after having taken off 10 or 15 pounds.

It is not for these that the pinch really hurts. It may be that for as much as one-third of our population inflation in food prices can mean the difference between a marginally adequate diet and undernutrition between an inadequate diet and gross malnutrition.

### Overcoming the Damage

I can understand why the indignation of our people focuses on the economics instead of the health aspects of spiraling food costs. It is more immediately visible. Have a pill damage a score of people, and a hysterical flurry of action ensues—hearings and headlines, legislation and regulation. Have scores of thousands of pregnant women malnourished and their children severely damaged in utero by lack of food—and there ensues a resounding silence.

This makes no sense. Remember the wartime days when our Government stressed the seven basic foods?

1. Leafy green and yellow vegetables.
2. Citrus fruits, tomatoes, raw cabbage.
3. Potatoes, other vegetables and fruit.
4. Milk, cheese, ice cream.
5. Meat, poultry, fish, eggs, dried peas and beans.
6. Bread, flour, cereals.
7. Butter and fortified margarine.

And what if one were to try to follow this advice today?

Eat green vegetables every day. How many middle- and low-income large-sized families can eat green salads every day at present costs?

Be sure to drink orange juice every day. This absolutely essential source of ascorbic acid has gone from 25¢ for 10 oranges in 1940 to 93¢ for 10 oranges in 1974. However, if 10 oranges pro-

vide a quart of orange juice and 6 ounces of orange juice provides approximately 90 mg. of ascorbic acid, one could get almost 500 mg. of vitamin C by consuming the whole quart—which currently costs 79¢. This compares with a 500-mg. tablet of ascorbic acid costing anywhere from 1¢ to 4¢ per tablet.

Be sure to have bread and milk every day. I can hardly believe that the white "sponge" on the grocery shelves is now over 50¢ a loaf, and milk 43¢ a quart. Have some meat each day. Are you kidding?

It is high time for the American physician and organized medicine and all our patients to make crystal clear to our Government that inflation is not just a pocketbook issue but for many a matter of health or illness and, for some, ultimately life and death.

It is a farce to hold hearings on the cost of health care, on the treatment of disease, rather than on the health threat of food inflation. It is like locking the barn door after the horse has been stolen. The most important type of medicine is preventive, and one of the most important preventive medicines of all is an adequate, well-balanced diet.

### EPIGRAMS—Clinical and Otherwise

We all labor against our own cure,  
for death is the cure of all diseases.  
Sir Thomas Browne (1605-82)  
Religio Medici

## Early Neonatal Meningitis Linked to Low Birth Weight

Continued from page 2

late-onset, lethargy and fever appear and there are fewer episodes of apnea and symptoms characteristic of meningitis in older patients.

Asked when to start antibiotics and how long to continue, Dr. Barrett said that the answers depend largely on subsequent developments and on the time it takes for the physician to get reliable information from the laboratory.

"We can rely on a negative culture report after five days, so we continue the antibiotic for five days and if the signs are negative we discontinue, but we have no hard and fast rule on that," he explained.

### Antimicrobial Therapy

Dr. Jerome O. Klein, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard University, described gentamicin and kanamycin, along with a penicillin, are the drugs of choice in treating early-onset neonatal meningitis.

Chloramphenicol is useful against gentamicin-resistant strains, he said. Polymyxin B should not be used for neonatal infections as it does not cross biological membranes into body fluids, he said, the only exception being when it can come in direct contact with the organisms.

In late-onset meningitis, Dr. Klein said, penicillin is the drug of choice for streptococcal infections and gentamicin against any staphylococcal organisms.

Before antimicrobial therapy begins,

cultures must be taken of the blood, spinal fluid, and urinary tract, he stated.

Communication with the obstetrician is critical in neonatal infections, Dr. Klein went on.

"When there is rupture of the maternal membranes, any infant exposed in the birth canal for more than 24 hours is an infant at risk," he said.

Signs of these infections are often subtle, he observed, but among specific signs to watch for are jaundice, poor feeding, and lethargy. The white count is not helpful in diagnosis, he noted. Any infant with unexplained fever must be considered at risk.

The umbilical cord should be carefully checked for any inflammation, joints manipulated to see if there is an early onslaught of arthritis, and a check made for urinary tract infection or peritonitis, Dr. Klein said.

Recently, he said, infants with otitis have been encountered, and this is a new cause of concern.

"It is not easy to examine tympanic membranes, but it can be done with training, and this is also a good region for aspiration," he commented.

There are considerable limitations in looking at the level of immunoglobulin as a sign of neonatal sepsis, he observed, as increased levels of IgM are present in noninfected infants, and some infected infants have not had elevated levels. A more promising line of investigation, he added, is that specific antigens will be found as an indication of infection.

## Medicament Stamp

Philbert Commerson



Philbert Commerson (1727-73) received his medical education at Montpellier. After graduating with an M.D. he devoted his full time to natural sciences. He sailed with Louis Bougainville on an expedition around the world, making drawings and collecting specimens. Settling in Mauritius, he classified the flora and fauna. Stamp issued in 1974.

Text: Dr. Joseph Klay  
Stamp: Medicus Publications, Inc., New York

# Sitting pretty for years to come...

Gentle in bringing patients down to normotensive levels, Esidrix will continue to "sit right" with many of the mild hypertensives for whom you prescribe it. Indeed it can mean years and years of even, uneventful control.

Esidrix. It is still unsurpassed as a basic diuretic/anti-hypertensive. And many patients with edema rarely need a more potent diuretic.

Contraindications include anuria. Use cautiously in patients with impaired renal or hepatic function.

## Esidrix® (hydrochlorothiazide) for year-after-year control of mild hypertension



### Esidrix® (hydrochlorothiazide)

#### INDICATIONS

Hypertension and edema. Anuria; hypersensitivity to this or other sulfonamide-derived drugs. The routine use of diuretics in an otherwise healthy pregnant woman with or without mild edema is contraindicated and possibly hazardous.

**WARNINGS**  
Use with caution in severe renal disease. In patients with renal disease, thiazides may precipitate azotemia. Cumulative effects of the drug may develop in patients with impaired renal function. Thiazides should be used with caution in patients with impaired hepatic function or progressive liver disease, since minor alterations of fluid and electrolyte balance may precipitate hepatic coma. Thiazides may be additive or potentiative of the action of other antihypertensive drugs. Potentiation occurs with ganglionic or peripheral adrenergic blocking drugs.

Sensitivity reactions are more likely to occur in patients with a history of allergy or bronchial asthma. The possibility of exacerbation or activation of systemic lupus erythematosus has been reported. Use in Pregnancy: Use of thiazides in women of childbearing age requires that the potential benefits of the drug be weighed against its possible hazards to the fetus. These hazards include fetal or neonatal jaundice, thrombocytopenia, and possibly other adverse reactions which have occurred in the adult.

**Usage in Lactation:** Thiazides cross the placental barrier and appear in cord blood and breast milk.

#### PRECAUTIONS

Periodic determination of serum electrolytes to detect possible electrolyte imbalance should be performed at appropriate intervals. Observe patients for clinical signs of fluid or electrolyte imbalance (hypotension, hypochloremic alkalosis, and hypokalemia). Serum and urine electrolyte determinations are particularly important when the patient is vomiting excessively or receiving parenteral fluids. Medication such as digitalis may also influence serum electrolytes. Warning signs of drowsiness, restlessness, muscle pains or cramps, muscular fatigue, hypotension, oliguria, tachycardia, and gastrointestinal disturbance such as nausea or vomiting.

Hypokalemia may develop with thiazides as with any other potent diuretic, especially during brisk diuresis, when severe cirrhosis is present, or during concomitant administration of steroids or ACTH. Interference with adequate oral intake of electrolytes will also contribute to hypokalemia. Digitalis therapy may exaggerate metabolic effects of hypokalemia, especially with reference to myocardial activity.

Any chloride deficit is generally mild and usually does not require specific treatment except under extraordinary circumstances (as in liver disease or in adrenergic patients in hot weather) appropriate therapy is water restriction rather than administration of salt, except in rare instances when the hypotension is life-threatening. In actual salt depletion, appropriate replacement is the therapy of choice.

Transient elevations in plasma calcium may occur in patients receiving thiazides, particularly in those with hyperparathyroidism. Pathological changes in the parathyroid gland have been reported in a few patients on prolonged thiazide therapy.

**Hyperuricemia** may occur or frank gout may be precipitated in certain patients. Insulin requirements in diabetic patients may be increased, decreased, or unchanged. Latent diabetes may become manifest during thiazide administration.

Thiazide drugs may increase the responsiveness to tubocurarine. The antihypertensive effects of the drug may be enhanced in the post-sympathectomy patient. Thiazides may decrease arterial responsiveness to norepinephrine. This is not sufficient to preclude effectiveness of the pressor agent for therapeutic use.

If nitrogen retention indicates onset of progressive renal impairment, consider withholding or discontinuing diuretic therapy.

Thiazides may decrease serum PBI levels without signs of thyroid disturbance.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**  
Gastrointestinal—nausea, gastric irritation, nausea, vomiting, cramping, diarrhea, constipation, jaundice (intrahepatic cholestatic), pancreatitis, hepatitis, headache, vertigo, parosmia, taste perversion, xerostomia, xeroderma, photosensitivity—purpura, photosensitivity, rash, urticaria, necrotizing angitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and other hypersensitivity reactions.

Hematologic—leukopenia, agranulocytosis, thrombocytopenia, aplastic anemia. Cardiovascular—orthostatic hypotension may occur and may be potentiated by alcohol, barbiturates, or narcotics. Other—hyperglycemia, glycosuria, hyperuricemia, muscle spasm, weakness, restlessness. Whenever adverse reactions are moderate or severe, reduce dosage or withdraw therapy.

**DOSAGE**  
Individualize dosage by titrating for maximum therapeutic response at the lowest possible dose. Hypertension Initial—Usual dose 75 mg daily. Maintenance—After a week dosage may be adjusted downward to as little as 25 mg or upward to as much as 100 mg daily. Combined therapy—When necessary, other antihypertensives may be added gradually and with caution because of the potentiating effect of this drug. Dosages of the other blockers should be halved.

**Edema:** Initial—25 to 200 mg daily for several days. Maintenance—25 to 100 mg daily or intermittently. Refractory patients may require up to 500 mg daily. **SUPPLIED**

Tablets, 50 mg (yellow, scored); bottles of 30, 60, 100, 1000, 5000 and Accu-pak blister units of 100, 1000, 25 mg (pink, scored); bottles of 100, 1000 and 5000.

Consult complete literature before prescribing.

CIBA Pharmaceutical Company  
Division of CIBA-GEIGY Corporation  
Summit, New Jersey 07901

C I B A

The Only Independent Weekly Medical Newspaper in the U.S.

## Medical Tribune

and Medical News  
Published by Medical Tribune, Inc.

### Paranormal Studies

PUBLICATION of a paper on parapsychology in *Nature* does seem to confer upon it the imprimatur of this august journal of science. And that was the reaction to it in the daily press and in TV news broadcasts. In a leading article in the same issue, *Nature* itself says that the appearance in the journal "is not a process of receiving a seal of approval from the establishment; rather it is the serving of notice on the community that there is something worthy of their attention and scrutiny."

In spite of reservations about the paper expressed in the leading article, what is worthy of attention and scrutiny is evidence from a series of experiments "suggesting the existence of one or more perceptual modalities through which individuals obtain information about their environment, although this information is not presented to any known sense." The article is entitled "Information transmission under conditions of sensory shielding"; its authors, R. Targ and H. Puthoff, are two physicists at the Electronics and Bioengineering Laboratory of the Stanford Research Institute. It is noteworthy that *Nature* published the article in the section of the Physical Sciences, not the Biological Sciences.

In any event, Targ and Puthoff seem to have confirmed that Uri Geller,

under controlled conditions that eliminated chicanery, has a remarkable ability to "reproduce target pictures drawn by experimenters located at remote locations" and that Pat Price has an equally remarkable ability to "describe randomly chosen geographical sites located several miles from the subject's position and demarcated by some appropriate means (remote viewing)." In these days of excitement about acupuncture, why not parapsychological powers as well?

An anecdote by the late Dr. Claude S. Beck about his intern days at the Johns Hopkins University seems appropriate. Dr. Beck wrote: "Doctor Finney had Professor Halsted see a patient at the Union Protestant Infirmary. Surgical operation was done. Doctor Halsted's diagnosis was wrong. Doctor Finney's diagnosis was correct. The following comment was made, 'Finney, on what did you base your diagnosis?' Answer, 'Just a hunch, Professor.' Whereupon Halsted said, 'I would rather be wrong with reason than right without reason.' How could an intern interpret this? Was it the sublime in logic or was it the arrogance of being Professor?"

Many of us would rather be right with a hunch—no matter how paranormal it might be.

### The Advantage of Being Female

THAT mortality statistics heavily favor the female over the male has been well publicized. As an editorial on this page put it four years ago, "Whatever inequalities exist socially and politically, biologically the deck is stacked against the male." The actual statistics are not, however, well known. The *Statistical Bulletin* of the Metropolitan Life in its August issue has compiled decennial figures from 1900-1970 for the sex ratio of female to male mortality by age group, based on data from the National Center for Health Statistics. For the year 1970, the leading causes of death are also listed.

Death rates for all ages among women from 1900 until 1920 were about 10 per cent lower than those among men. But although the rates have been declining for both sexes thereafter, the advantage to women has been steadily increasing. In 1930 the over-all female mortality was 84 per cent that of the

male; in 1940, 77 per cent; in 1950, 69 per cent; in 1960, 62 per cent and by 1970, it had fallen to 57 per cent. As the *Bulletin* states, "At ages under 5 and at ages 85 and over the sex differential has changed little since 1900, but in all other age groups the female advantage has continued to grow. In 1970 female mortality was 36 per cent of that for males at ages 15-24 and ranged between 47 and 57 per cent of that for males at ages 25 to 74."

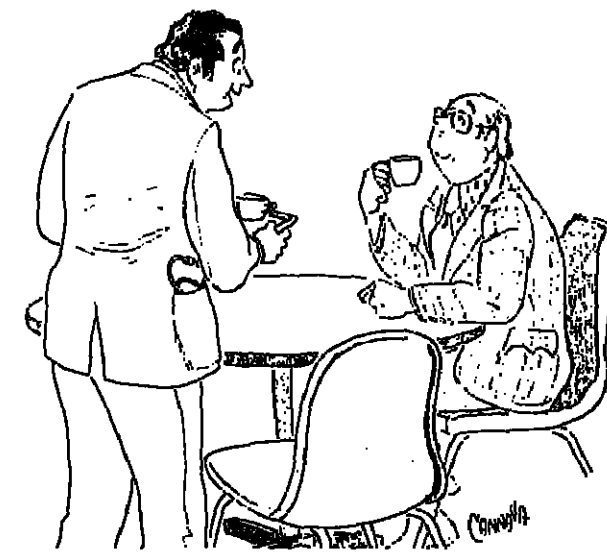
This advantage cannot be attributed to "the considerably higher death rates from accidental injuries and violence to which men are subject." Even when these deaths are excluded, women's mortality is more favorable. A variety of explanations have been proffered for the lower death rates among women but the most likely one appears to be the presence of a biological factor, whatever that might turn out to be.

### Intestinal Parasites in Children

CLINICAL QUOTE: "Infection with intestinal parasites... can be with a variety of organisms. It can cause a variety of medical, public health and perhaps even social problems. Some of the medical problems may be considered serious, some merely troublesome. By serious, we mean such clinical manifestations as anemia, pneumonia, perforated bowel, ap-

pendicitis, bloody or mucous diarrhea, and growth failure.

"Anyone who has been associated with school health programs... has most likely had the experience of the angry telephone call... from the frustrated mother who reports that her child 'has picked up pinworms at school.'" (Dr. Vivian K. Harlin; see page 1.)



"Swigler? Not the Swigler of 'A Reappraisal of Imipramine Levels in Primary Depressive Syndromes?'"

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### LETTERS TO TRIBUNE

#### Blood Lead Studies

The article (MT, Sept. 25) comparing two apparently conflicting studies dealing with blood lead levels in El Paso, Texas, touches on an important area, and needs to be clarified. Dr. McNeil reported the details of a study involving children living near a lead smelter and their matched controls at the Symposium on Recent Advances in the Assessment of the Health Effects of Environmental Pollution in Paris. Dr. Carnow's observations were based on anecdotal information that he collected and did not constitute data that could be compared to the McNeil study.

Dr. McNeil's study included 138 of the total of 206 children that lived in the Smeltertown area. They were carefully matched with controls, and when the two groups were compared, there were very few and insignificant instances of deleterious effects noted in either group. Of the children living in Smeltertown that did not participate in the McNeil study, 51 per cent had blood lead levels exceeding 40 mcg per 100 ml., whereas 73 per cent of those in the study exceeded that level. Therefore, it seems highly unlikely that those children not included in his study would have symptoms attributable to lead effects as Dr. Carnow suggests. The question of subtle neurophysiologic effects occurring secondary to asymptomatic elevations of blood lead can only be answered by collecting data from carefully controlled studies.

EDWARD B. MCCABE, M.D.  
Madison, Wis.

fornia psychologist? I believe that medical publications should lead the way in making sure the credentials of the "Dr."s about whom they are writing are clear.

#### MEDICAL DOCTOR

(Dr. Paul E. Keith is a physician. MEDICAL TRIBUNE uses "Dr." before the full name to refer to a physician. A Ph.D. is so designated in the first reference. Thereafter he is also "Dr."—Ed.)

#### 'Hard Evidence' Boys

I very much appreciated your editorial, "Apologies Are in Order from the Double Blind Boys to the Practicing Physician" (MT, Sept. 25). I think it is time too that somebody examined the "hard evidence boys." Lately I have wondered about the "hard evidence" on the basis of which patients with diverticulosis were put on a low roughage diet; the hard evidence on the basis of which patients with coronaries were kept in bed for 6 weeks; the hard evidence on the basis of which obese, maturity-onset diabetics were treated with insulin-stimulating drugs; the hard evidence on the basis of which people with TB were put to bed for a year; and so on.

History will in all probability show that "double blind" really demonstrates that the investigator's hindsight was as bad as his foresight.

SAMUEL J. ARNOLD, M.D.  
Morristown, N.J.

#### Political Diagnosis?

Thank you for your refreshing article on "Complications of Phlebitis" which is a critique of Dr. Walter Tkach's, also General Tkach's, diagnosis of former President Nixon's phlebitis. I think you made it clear, though you didn't state so openly, that this was a political, not a medical diagnosis and was for the purpose of furthering Mr. Nixon's previous stance against revealing all that festered in his administration.

I have seen no medical criticism of Dr. Tkach's statements and your analysis is one indicator of why there needs to be Peer Review as well as community enrollment with regard to health care.

HARRY E. BELLER, M.D.  
Miami, Fla.

#### 100% Agreement

Now Dr. Sackler's done it... written an editorial with which I can agree 100 per cent—"TEARS ALONE ARE NOT ENOUGH."

T. NORLEY, M.D.  
W. Palm Beach, Fla.

#### The Nude Centerfold MD

I am a steady reader of yours... After reading your current (Oct. 9 issue) today, I have elected you to kick off my new campaign: that all publication which use the abbreviation Dr. shall stipulate whether he (or she, of course) be MD or some other.

Is "Dr." Keith, of the *Playgirl* centerfold, an MD or a non-uptight Call-





## What a difference a day can make

Your counsel and reassurance—and Ritalin.  
A logical first step in treating mild depression\* and often all that's needed to bring quick symptomatic relief.  
Indeed, your patient may be-

gin to feel better within hours—her spirits boosted, her mood brightened. A single prescription may be all that's needed.  
Ritalin is usually well tolerated even by older or convalescent patients. Note, however,

that it is not indicated in the more severe depressions.  
But whenever depression is mild, think of Ritalin—so your patient has a better chance of waking up to a brighter tomorrow.

**Ritalin<sup>®</sup>**  
(methylphenidate)  
acts quickly to relieve symptoms  
in mild depression

\*This drug has been evaluated as possibly effective for this indication. See brief prescribing information.

Ritalin<sup>®</sup> hydrochloride (methylphenidate hydrochloride) TABLETS

**INDICATION**  
Based on a review of this drug by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council and/or other information, FDA has classified the indication as follows:  
"Possibly" effective: Mild depression  
First classification of the less-than-effective indications requires further investigation.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**  
Marked anxiety, tension, and agitation, since Ritalin may aggravate these symptoms. Also contraindicated in patients known to be hypersensitive to the drug; and in patients with glaucoma.

**WARNINGS**  
Ritalin should not be used in children under six years, since safety and efficacy in this age group have not been established.

Sufficient data on safety and efficacy of long-term use of Ritalin in children with minimal brain dysfunction are not yet available. Although a causal relationship has not been established, suppression of growth (i.e., weight gain and/or height) has been reported with long-term use of stimulants in children. Therefore, children requiring long-term therapy should be carefully monitored.

Ritalin should not be used for severe depression of either exogenous or endogenous origin or for the prevention of normal fatigue states.

Ritalin may lower the convulsive threshold in patients with or without prior seizures; with or without prior EEG abnormalities, even in absence of seizures. Safe concomitant use of anticonvulsants and Ritalin has not been established. If seizures occur, Ritalin should be discontinued. Use cautiously in patients with hypertension. Blood pressure should be monitored at appropriate intervals in all patients taking Ritalin, especially those with hypertension.

**Drug Interactions**  
Ritalin may decrease the hypotensive effect of guanethidine. Use cautiously with pressor agents and MAO inhibitors. Ritalin may inhibit the metabolism of coumarin anticoagulants, anticonvulsants (phenytoin, phenobarbital, phenylethynolone, primidone), phenylbutazone, and tricyclic antidepressants (imipramine, desipramine). Downward dosage adjustment of these drugs may be required when given concomitantly with Ritalin.

**Usage in Pregnancy**  
A limited animal reproduction studies to establish safe use of Ritalin during pregnancy have not been conducted. Therefore, until more information is available, Ritalin should not be prescribed for women of childbearing age, unless, in the opinion of the physician, the potential benefits outweigh the possible risks.

**Drug Dependence**  
Ritalin should be given cautiously to emotionally unstable patients, such as those with a history of drug dependence or alcoholism, because such patients may increase dosage on their own initiative. Chronically abused users are at risk for marked tolerance and physical dependence with varying degrees of abnormal behavior. Frank psychotic episodes can occur, especially with parenteral abuse. Careful supervision is required during drug withdrawal, since severe depression as well as the effects of frank psychosis may be intensified. Long-term use may be required because of the patient's basic personality disturbance.

**PRECAUTIONS**  
Patients with an element of agitation may react adversely; discontinue therapy if necessary. Periodic CBC, differential, and platelet counts are advised during prolonged therapy.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**  
Nervousness and insomnia are the most common adverse reactions, but are usually controlled by reducing dosage and omitting the drug in the afternoon or evening. Other reactions include: hypersensitivity (including skin rash, urticaria, fever, arthralgia, exfoliative dermatitis, erythema multiforme with histopathological findings of necrotizing vasculitis, and thrombocytopenic purpura); anorexia; nausea; dizziness; palpitations; headache; dyskinosia; drowsiness; blood pressure and pulse changes, both up and down; tachycardia; angina; cardiac arrhythmia; abdominal pain; weight loss during prolonged therapy. Toxic psychosis has been reported. Although a definite causal relationship has not been established, the following have been reported in patients taking this drug: leukopenia and/or anemia; a few instances of scalp hair loss. In children, loss of appetite, abdominal pain, weight loss during prolonged therapy, insomnia, and tachycardia may occur more frequently; however, any of the other adverse reactions listed above may also occur.

**DOSEAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**  
**Adults**  
Administer orally in divided doses 2 or 3 times daily, preferably 30 to 45 minutes before meals. Dosage will depend upon indication and individual response.

Average dosage is 20 to 30 mg daily. Some patients may require 40 to 60 mg daily. In others, 10 to 15 mg daily will be adequate. The few patients who are unable to sleep if medication is taken late in the day should take the last dose before 8 p.m.

**HOW SUPPLIED**  
Tablets, 20 mg (pink, scored); bottles of 100 and 1000.

Tablets, 10 mg (pink, scored); bottles of 100, 500, 1000 and Accu-pak blister units of 100, 500 and 1000.

Tablets, 5 mg (pink, scored); bottles of 100, 500 and 1000.

Consult complete product literature before prescribing.

CIBA Pharmaceutical Company  
Division of CIBA-GEIGY Corporation  
Summit, New Jersey 07901

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C I B A

Wednesday, November 20, 1974

MEDICAL TRIBUNE

13

## New Stereotactic Biopsy of Breast Avoids Disfigurement

Continued from page 1  
in wondering if the cure may not be worse than the disease, at least for the 67 per cent of women biopsied who are proved not to have cancer," he declared.

Dr. Schwartz, who is Associate Professor of Surgery at Jefferson, said that the key to the new biopsy procedure is the stereotactic placement of needles as surgical markers for the lesions, prior to excision.

On the day scheduled for biopsy the patient receives repeat mammography in order again to locate the suspicious lesion. Its distance from the nipple is carefully measured on both the craniocaudal and lateral x-rays, and under local anesthesia, a 22-gauge 1.5-inch needle is placed in the breast and directed toward the expected site of the lesion. The x-rays are repeated to identify the needle's exact position in relation to the lesion.

### Needle Within 1 Cm. of Lesion

"If the tip of the needle is within one cm. of the lesion, it is fixed in place with adhesive tape and the patient is sent to the operating room," Dr. Schwartz said. "If the needle is more than 1 cm. from the lesion, a second needle is placed in the breast, using the first needle as guide, and the films are again repeated."

"In the operating room, under general anesthesia, a circumareolar incision is outlined with its center in the line of the needle. . . . If the suspicious area is minute, we usually excise about 1 cc. of tissue at the tip of the needle; when a larger area is seen on the x-ray, an appropriate sized piece of tissue is excised."

The specimen is then x-rayed and the picture developed within 90 seconds to make sure that the lesions have been excised, "with a very minimum of contiguous normal breast tissue, leaving the patient with an acceptable cosmetic result."

In 30 cases, Dr. Schwartz reported, "we have not yet missed the suspicious area."

The patient is discharged the following day, after the pathologist has embedded and sliced the entire section, and made his diagnosis.

### Patients 'Less Anxious'

"We may thus give the patient the good news at the time she goes home, if the lesion is benign, or discuss the finding with her before discharge when malignancy is encountered," the surgeon stated. "Using this technique, we have noted our patients are less anxious when biopsy is recommended, because they are sure of a minimal operation, with a short hospital stay. No patient, subsequently discovered to have benign disease, has been sorry she underwent the operation, since no disfigurement has resulted. Patient acceptance has been universally excellent."

Turning to the problem of radical mastectomy, Dr. Schwartz again chided surgeons for performing operations that "do not have to be any more morbid or disabling than simple or total mastectomy."

Loss of the pectoral muscles need not be poorly tolerated, he declared, nor need radical mastectomy result in



A postoperative photo shows excellent cosmetic result following a biopsy on patient's right breast with Dr. Schwartz's procedure. Below, under local anesthesia, the breast is positioned on the x-ray plate and a 1.5-inch needle is directed toward the expected site of the lesion as a marker.



loss of motion of the ipsilateral arm. "My patients may postoperatively look forward to participating in any activity they performed prior to surgery—golf, tennis, or bowling."

To illustrate his point at a news conference, Dr. Schwartz showed a photograph of a 75-year-old patient who had undergone a right radical mastectomy, including loss of the pectoral muscle. He noted the cosmetic

excellence of the result, and added:

"This patient can do anything with her right arm except throw a forward pass. But then how many of our patients are quarterbacks?"

Coauthors were Drs. John D. Wallace, Research Professor of Radiology; Herman Libshitz, now at Duke University; and Gerald Dodd, now at M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, Houston, Tex.



While the patient is under general anesthesia, a circumareolar incision is outlined with its center between the nipple and the line of the needle. The needle has been stereotactically positioned as a surgical marker for the lesion.

## Counselor Role With Married Patients Urged

Continued from page 3  
cluding attitudes on sex, what kind of life style they foresee, etc. They should also decide how to handle such "trivial" items as who takes out the garbage, who pays the bills and handles the credit cards, which in-laws look like trouble and where the couple will spend Christmas.

Other hard questions should force the couples to ask themselves if the marriage breaks up who will take care of the children.

"In a great number of troubled marriages, you can almost be sure that it was a pretty bad marriage to begin with, so that the family physician should do what he can to prevent a mismatch when he can."

### Should Get Both Sides

If possible, he continued, the physician should talk to both partners in a troubled marriage at the same time, although he may also find that he must talk to each partner separately to find out what is the real root of the problem. In all cases, however, he should get both sides of the story.

"Sometimes you find out that when a husband says his wife is no good in bed, or vice versa, it's because they spend so much time fighting outside the bed."

If a marriage has become dull, Dr. Mead suggested that the physician should encourage the troubled couple to find out what has to be changed to make the marriage lively and interesting again.

"Ask them," he suggested, "what can you do to make this marriage better? If you want to change your spouse first think of what you might do to change yourself."

"Marriages, like people, can develop bad habits," Dr. Mead concluded. "And, as with personal bad habits, each couple should have the power and flexibility to change the habits that have altered the previously happy pattern of their marriage."

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

... brief summaries of editorials or comments in current medical and scientific journals.

### Fetal Research Legislation

"The future of research involving human fetal organs and tissues is currently in jeopardy because of legislative attempts to place severe restrictive limitations on this type of study..."

"Important advances in perinatal pharmacology have been derived from experimental procedures on the fetus. The understanding of fetal pharmacology led to a model of the interrelationships of drugs, bilirubin metabolism, and kernicterus, and the prevention of the condition..."

"Currently, an increasing number of children born with previously fatal immune deficiencies are alive because of the experimental development of fetal liver and thymus transplantation techniques. Both the research leading to these procedures and the tissue transplanted are dependent on the availability of fresh tissue from therapeutically aborted human fetuses..."

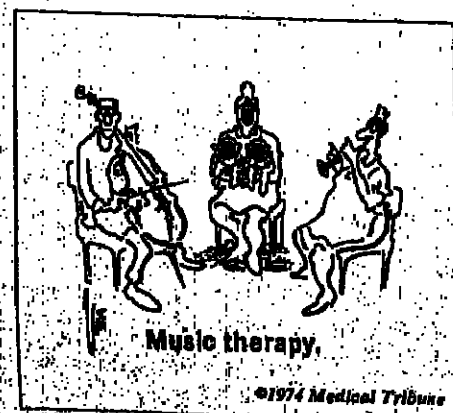
"... While no teratologist is calling for drug or chemical testing in man, surveillance and study of drug effects on the human embryo and fetus are essential if a second thalidomide tragedy is to be prevented..."

"Many recent advances in virology have been dependent on human fetal material. Virologists have found that specific fetal tissues provide almost ideal culture conditions for human-specific viruses... adenoviruses have been most successfully cultured in human fetal kidney, cytomegalovirus in human fetal lung, and respiratory viruses in human fetal tracheal tissues. Hepatitis virus has been grown in tissue culture of human fetal origin..."

"We hope these words will encourage responsible pediatricians to participate in shaping public policy in these matters." (Comment, Thomas H. Shepard, M.D., Alan G. Fantel, Ph.D., *Am. J. Dis. Child.* 128: 295, Sept. 1974)

### Chemicals and Cancer

"Every year some thousands of new chemical compounds are synthesized and brought into use in industry and some of these inevitably escape into the environment as contaminants of food, air, water and consumer products... We cannot have new products without risk, but it is irresponsible to permit new products without assessment of their risks..." (Editorial, *The Lancet* 2:629, Sept. 14, 1974)

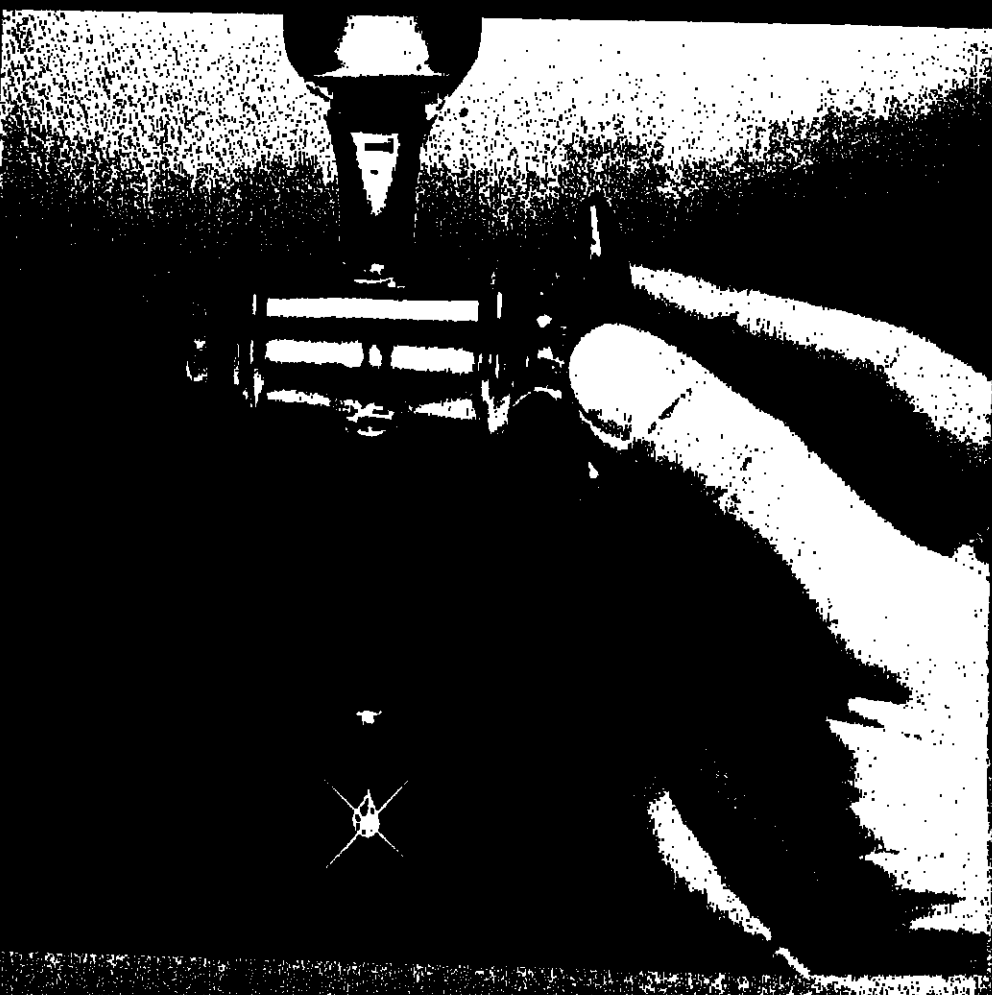


Music therapy.

©1974 Medical Tribune

# Esimil...begins with a thiazide

guanethidine monosulfate 10 mg  
hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg



## Esimil

guanethidine monosulfate 10 mg  
hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg

INDICATIONS  
Hypertension. (See box warning.)

**WARNING**  
This fixed combination drug is not indicated for initial therapy of hypertension. Hypertension requires therapy titrated to the individual patient. If the fixed combination represents the dosage so determined, its use may be more convenient in patient management. The treatment of hypertension is not static, but must be reevaluated as conditions in each patient warrant.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**  
Guanethidine is known or suspected pheochromocytoma; hypersensitivity; frank congestive heart failure not due to hypertension; use of MAO inhibitors. Hydrochlorothiazide: Anuria; hypersensitivity to this or other sulfonamide-derived drugs. The routine use of diuretics in an otherwise healthy pregnant woman with or without mild edema is contraindicated and possibly hazardous.

**WARNINGS**  
Antihypertensives are potent drugs and can lead to disturbing and serious clinical problems. Physicians should be familiar with all drugs and their combinations before prescribing, and patients should be warned not to deviate from instructions.

### Guanethidine

Warn patients about the potential hazard of orthostatic hypotension, which can occur frequently and is most marked in the morning or after a meal. To help prevent fainting, warn patients to sit or lie down with head of bed raised or weakness, which may be particularly age adjustment and with postural changes. The potential occurrence of these symptoms may require alteration of previous daily activity. Caution patients to avoid sudden or prolonged standing or exercise while taking the drug.

Concurrent use with rauwolfia derivatives may cause excessive postural hypotension, bradycardia, and mental depression. If possible, withdraw therapy 2 weeks prior to surgery to reduce the possibility of vascular collapse and cardiac arrest during anesthesia. If anesthesia and analgesia are administered, pre-reduced dosage and have oxygen, atropine, vasopressors, and IV solutions ready for use. Do not use to treat vascular collapse. Vasopressors should be used with extreme caution. Patients on guanethidine because of the possibility of augmented response and the greater propensity for cardiac arrhythmias. Dosage requirements may be reduced in presence of fever. Exercise special care when treating patients with a history of bronchial asthma, since their condition may be aggravated.

**Hydrochlorothiazide**  
Use with caution in patients with renal disease. In chronic renal disease, thiazides may precipitate or worsen renal insufficiency. Cumulative effects of the drug may develop in patients with impaired renal function.

Thiazides should be used with caution in patients with impaired hepatic function or progressive liver disease, since minor alterations of fluid

and electrolyte imbalance may precipitate hepatic coma. Thiazides may be additive or potentiative of the action of other antihypertensive drugs. Potential occurs with ganglionic or peripheral adrenergic blocking drugs. Sensitivity reactions are more likely to occur in patients with a history of allergy or bronchial asthma. The possibility of exacerbation or activation of systemic lupus erythematosus has been reported.

**Usage in Pregnancy**  
Guanethidine: The safety of guanethidine for use in pregnancy has not been established; therefore, this drug should be used in pregnant patients only when, in the judgment of the physician, its use is deemed essential to the welfare of the patient. Hydrochlorothiazide: Use of thiazides in women of childbearing age requires that the potential benefits of the drug be weighed against its possible hazards to the fetus. These hazards include fetal or neonatal jaundice, thrombocytopenia, and possibly other adverse reactions which have occurred in the adult.

**Nursing Mothers**  
Thiazides cross the placental barrier and appear in cord blood and breast milk.

**PRECAUTIONS**  
Guanethidine: The effects of guanethidine are cumulative over long periods; initial dose should be small and increased gradually in small increments. Use very cautiously in hypertensives with renal disease and nitrogen retention or rising BUN levels; coronary disease with insufficiency or recent myocardial infarction; cerebral vascular disease, especially with encephalopathy. Do not give guanethidine to patients with severe cardiac failure except with extreme caution. In incipient cardiac decompensation weight gain or edema may be alerted by the administration of a thiazide. Remember that both guanethidine and thiazides slow the heart rate.

...because it is the standard initial therapy—the logical foundation upon which to build. And we picked hydrochlorothiazide, the most widely prescribed diuretic-antihypertensive, which we

## ...added to perhaps the most effective antihypertensive available, guanethidine...

to create a logical team of therapeutic activities ...for controlling moderate to severe hypertension.

to provide an alternative therapy ...which often controls hypertension in patients not responding to sedatives, diuretics, rauwolfia-thiazides, or other centrally acting inhibitors alone or in combination.

to avoid exacerbating the problem of mental depression ...because Esimil contains no reserpine.

to encourage patient compliance ...because Esimil usually works in once-a-day dosage.

Like all antihypertensives, Esimil should be given with caution in the presence of severe coronary insufficiency or recent myocardial infarction.

Dissatisfied with your present antihypertensive therapy? Why don't you start with the same effective components we did, and when your carefully titrated dosage matches ours—switch to Esimil.

titrate to  
**Esimil**  
guanethidine monosulfate 10 mg  
hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg

Peptic ulcers or other chronic disorders may be aggravated by a relative increase in parasympathetic tone.

Amphetamine-like compounds, stimulants (eg, ephedrine, methylphenidate), tricyclic antidepressants (eg, amitriptyline, imipramine, desipramine) and other psychopharmacologic agents (eg, phenothiazines and related compounds), and oral contraceptives may reduce the hypotensive effect of guanethidine. Discontinue MAO inhibitors for at least one week before starting guanethidine.

**Hydrochlorothiazide:** Periodic determination of serum electrolytes to detect possible electrolyte imbalance should be performed at appropriate intervals. Observe patients for clinical signs of fluid or electrolyte imbalance (hypopnea, hypochloremic alkalosis, and hypokalemia). Serum and urine electrolyte determinations are particularly important when the patient is vomiting excessively or receiving parenteral fluids. Medication such as digitalis may also influence serum electrolytes. Warning signs are dryness of mouth, thirst, weakness, lethargy, drowsiness, restlessness, muscle pains or cramps, muscular twitching, hypotension, oliguria, tachycardia, and syncope.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**  
Guanethidine: Frequent reactions due to sympathetic blockade—dizziness, weakness, lightheadedness, orthostatic hypotension, increase in bowel movements, diarrhea (may be severe and necessitate discontinuance of the drug). Other common reactions—fatigue, muscle pain, nausea, vomiting, nocturia, urinary incontinence, dermatitis, scalp hair loss, dry mouth, rise in BUN, ptosis of the lids, blurring of vision, parotid tenderness, myalgia, muscle tremor, mental depression, chest pain (angina), chest parasthesias, nasal congestion, weight gain, and extreme in susceptible individuals. Although a causal relationship has not been established, a few instances of anemia, thrombocytopenia and leukopenia have been reported.

In actual salt depletion, appropriate replacement is the therapy of choice. Transient elevations in plasma calcium may occur in patients receiving thiazides, particularly in those with hyperparathyroidism. Pathological changes in the parathyroid gland have been reported in a few patients on prolonged thiazide therapy. Hyperuricemia may occur or frank gout may be precipitated in certain patients. Insulin requirements in diabetic patients may be increased, decreased, or unchanged. Latent diabetes may become manifest during thiazide administration. Thiazide drugs may increase the responsiveness to tubocurarine. The antihypertensive effects of the drug may be enhanced in the post-sympathetic patient. Thiazides may decrease arterial responsiveness to norepinephrine. This is not sufficient to preclude effectiveness of the pressor agent for therapeutic use. If nitrogen retention indicates onset of progressive renal impairment, consider withholding or discontinuing diuretic therapy. Thiazides may decrease serum FPI levels without signs of thyroid disturbance.

As determined by individual titration (see box warning).

Note: 10 mg guanethidine monosulfate present in Esimil is equivalent to 8.4 mg guanethidine sulfate USP.

Before starting therapy, consult complete product literature.

**HOW SUPPLIED**  
Tablets (white, scored), each containing 10 mg guanethidine monosulfate and 25 mg hydrochlorothiazide; bottles of 100.

CIBA Pharmaceutical Company  
Division of CIBA-GEIGY Corporation  
Summit, New Jersey 07901

## Ex-Psychiatric Cases in 'Orbit' Burden Florida

Medical Tribune Report

GAINESVILLE, FLA. — Most people think of Florida as the perfect spot for convalescence after a stay in the hospital, and psychiatric patients are no exception. And they are creating some severe problems for state facilities, according to University of Florida psychiatrist Richard E. Gordon.

The problems, Dr. Gordon told the psychiatry branch of the Florida Medical Association, spring largely from a group of unattached males who "orbit" to Florida after discharge from a psychiatric facility.

The majority are without the constraints that might lead to stable solutions: they have divorced their wives, quit their jobs, left their home states. Many have independent sources of income—pensions, social security, disability payments, the VA, or private funds—that enable them to maintain a peripatetic life style.

Though several states have large transient populations, none is as popular with these orbiting ex-patients as Florida, Dr. Gordon noted. Seven per cent of Florida's state hospital admissions last year were out-of-staters, compared to 0.3 per cent in California.

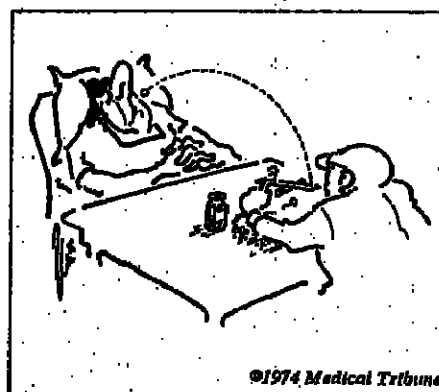
### Improvement Suggestions

Interstate orbiters, Dr. Gordon said, overtax a community's social services, don't stay long enough for effective outpatient treatment, and often "gain" from remaining sick. He proposed several ways in which both patients and state might improve the situation.

These included incentives to settle in one place; halfway houses for disabled psychiatric patients; greater financial allowances for those living with their families than for those staying alone; financial rewards for occupational and recreational progress greater than for idleness.

He also urged that these ex-patients not be penalized through their various pension systems for entering gainful employment, but receive pay for rehabilitation in sheltered workshops. Their psychiatric illness, he said, should not be a means of avoiding sanctions and the need for behavior modification.

To assure adequate outpatient care, Dr. Gordon went on, hospitals should be paid on a capitation basis, rather than for per cent of occupancy. And finally, he hopes that Federal funds will become available to states like Florida for the care of mentally ill out-of-staters who come down out of orbit in their territories.



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C I B A



## School Pinworm Screening Drives Urged

Continued from page 1

"Our awareness of these diseases has declined and surveillance has become negligible," Dr. Crowder declared, adding that a current rise in "hand-to-mouth" infections may have been significantly influenced by social changes.

Among these, she cited an increase in population, with crowded living conditions that contribute to inadequate disposal of solid wastes; and poverty, with accompanying malnutrition and exposure to environmental health hazards.

But one school innovation—wall-to-wall carpeting in classrooms—has also played a part, Dr. Crowder believes. The carpeting provides "excellent opportunities" for transmission of pinworm ova, and promotes transmis-

sion of scabies and pediculosis as well.

Dr. Crowder warned, too, that the generally beneficial custom of serving between-meal snacks at school will contribute to infection statistics unless there is adequate handwashing.

Physicians and educators concerned with child health were urged by Dr. Crowder to look into the situation at their local schools and see if programs exist to screen children for intestinal parasites. Data should be gathered on morbidity reports from the city or county health department, the incidence of such infections found by physicians in private practice, and the kinds of physical exams—if any—that are required by the school.

Dr. Howard B. Shookhoff, who heads the division of tropical diseases

in New York City's health department, outlined the methods of treatment now recommended for six intestinal parasite infections.

● **Pinworm:** "The drug of choice at this time is pyrantel pamoate." Both it and pyriminium pamoate are effective in a single dose, he said, but the former has the advantages of a lower frequency of nausea and a white (rather than a red) color. Some population groups object to red medication because it resembles blood, he noted.

● **Ascaris lumbricoides** (common roundworm): Piperazine has been the treatment of choice, Dr. Shookhoff commented. However, he now has the "distinct impression" that pyrantel pamoate is more effective.

● **Hookworm:** For moderate or heavy

infections, "the most effective drug in our experience is tetrachloroethylene," given in a single dose on an empty stomach. Any anemia should be corrected before the drug is used.

The new agent, mebendazole, may be more satisfactory and less toxic, Dr. Shookhoff said.

● **Trichuris trichiura:** Mebendazole has been introduced primarily for the treatment of this infection, "for which we have until recently had no satisfactory oral medication."

● **Strongyloides stercoralis:** Thiabendazole is recommended, with pyriminium pamoate as an "alternative treatment." Both are used in a suspension.

● **Trichinella spiralis:** In severe cases, treatment of choice is "the nonspecific use of steroids." Some specialists advise treatment with thiabendazole in addition, Dr. Shookhoff said.

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**Tenuate<sup>®</sup>**  
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**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Tenuate is indicated in the management of exogenous obesity as a short-term adjunct (a few weeks) in a regime of weight reduction based on caloric restriction. The limited usefulness of agents of this class should be measured against possible risk factors inherent in their use such as those described below.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Advanced arteriosclerosis, hyperthyroidism, known hypersensitivity, or idiosyncrasy to the sympathomimetic amines, glaucoma, agitated states.

**Warnings:** If tolerance develops, the recommended dose should not be exceeded in an attempt to increase the effect; rather, the drug should be discontinued. Tenuate may impair the ability of the patient to engage in potentially hazardous activities such as operating machinery or driving a motor vehicle; the patient should therefore be cautioned accordingly.

**Drug Dependence:** Tenuate has some chemical and pharmacologic similarities to the amphetamines and other related stimulant drugs that have been extensively abused. There are occasional reports of patients dependent on amphetamine-like stimulants who have developed tolerance to the stimulant effect of Tenuate. The possibility of abuse should be kept in mind when evaluating the desirability of instituting a drug as part of a weight reduction program. Abuse of amphetamines and related drugs may be associated with varying degrees of psychosis, depression and social dysfunction which, in the case of certain drugs, may be severe. There are reports of patients who have increased the dosage in many times that recommended. Abuse of Tenuate has been associated with high mental depression, convulsions, severe headache, and high blood pressure. Abuse of Tenuate has also been associated with ECG manifestations of cardiac irritation with myocardial depression, severe dermatoses, marked insomnia, irritability, hyperreflexia, and personality changes. The most severe manifestation of chronic intoxication is psychosis, often clinically indistinguishable from schizophrenia.

**Use in Pregnancy:** Although rat and human reproductive studies have not indicated adverse effects, the use of Tenuate by women who are pregnant or may become pregnant requires that the potential benefits be weighed against the potential risks.

**Use in Children:** Tenuate is not recommended for use in children under 12 years of age.

**PRECAUTIONS:** Caution is to be exercised in prescribing Tenuate for patients with hypertension or with symptomatic cardiovascular disease, including arrhythmias. Tenuate should not be administered to patients with severe hypertension.

Tolerant patients in diabetes mellitus may be affected in association with the use of Tenuate and its concomitant dietary regimen.

Tenuate may decrease the hypotensive effect of guanethidine. The least amount feasible should be prescribed or dispensed at one time in order to minimize the possibility of convulsions. Severe hypotension may increase the possibility of convulsions in some patients. Therefore, patients receiving Tenuate should be carefully monitored. Titration of dose or discontinuance of Tenuate may be necessary.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:** *Cardiovascular:* Palpitation, tachycardia, elevation of blood pressure, precordial pain, arrhythmia. One published report described T-wave changes in the ECG of a healthy young male after ingestion of diethylpropion hydrochloride.

*Central Nervous System:* Overstimulation, nervousness, restlessness, dizziness, jitteriness, insomnia, tremor, euphoria, depression, dysphoria, humor, headache, rarely psychotic episodes at recommended doses. In a few patients an increase in convulsive episodes has been reported.

*Gastrointestinal:* Dryness of the mouth, unpleasant taste, nausea, vomiting, abdominal discomfort, flatulence, constipation, other gastrointestinal disturbances.

*Alleged:* Irritation, rash, eczema, pruritus.

*Endocrine:* Impotence, changes in libido, menstrual upset.

*Neurological System:* Bone marrow depression, agranulocytosis, leukopenia.

*Miscellaneous:* A variety of miscellaneous adverse reactions has been reported by physicians. These include complaints such as dyspnea, hair loss, muscle pain, dizziness, and paresthesia.

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## Rauwolfia Studies Faulted for Methodology at FDA Meeting

Continued from page 1

1972 and produced the "entirely unsuspected" and therefore "unbiased" finding that women given rauwolfia alkaloids—principally reserpine—to control hypertension had a more than threefold greater risk of breast cancer than women who had not taken the drug. The English and Finnish studies were prompted by the finding in Boston and produced similar results.

Following reviews of the three investigations by representatives of the three study teams—Drs. Hershel Jick, Samuel Shapiro, and Bruce Armstrong, of the Boston, Helsinki, and Bristol groups, respectively—areas of possible bias were pointed out by NIH, FDA, and independent investigators.

The four "major deficiencies" in the studies, in the eyes of the National Heart and Lung Institute, were their possibly differential ascertainment of exposure to rauwolfia alkaloids, the possibility that their results reflected extraneous confounding factors such as previous hypertension that might influence rates of exposure to the drugs, difficulty in establishing an adequate time sequence between the supposed cause and its effect, and the validity of the exclusions used in establishing control groups, said Dr. Manning Feinleib, chief of NHLI's epidemiology branch.

### Some Controls Excluded

In the Boston study, he noted, about 4.5 per cent of possible hypertensive controls were excluded because their previous medication was unknown—"a serious shortcoming since proper allocation of the unknown group could possibly alter the study's major findings." He also noted that about half the breast cancer patients in the Boston study had been taking reserpine for less than five years, which he called "a surprisingly short interval if the drug is indeed carcinogenic."

"More reliable data on duration of treatment must be obtained before any statement of 'causality' can be made," he said.

Robert T. O'Neill, Ph.D., an FDA statistician, commented that the three studies dealt minimally with the relationship between age, duration of reserpine use, and the occurrence of breast cancer.

"The data in the three studies may not be able to answer this question, which certainly is of relevance in determining the subpopulation of women at the greatest risk," he said. "When considering hypertensive women alone, the data in the Boston study indicate a significant risk of breast cancer associated with reserpine use as compared with the use of other hypertensive agents. The Finnish study appears to give no such evidence. The English study, with other neoplasms not excluded, is suggestive of an increased risk."

Questions requiring further study, he said, are the adequacy of the control groups as representatives of the hypertensive population and of users of reserpine and other antihypertensive agents; the relationship between duration of use, age, and increased risk of breast cancer; the influence that users of undetermined antihypertensive

drugs may have had on the studies' results; case and control exclusion criteria, and the adequacy of case and control selection in the three investigations.

Dr. Norman M. Kaplan, a representative of the American Heart Association, urged that reserpine and other rauwolfia derivatives should not yet be restricted and that additional studies be undertaken to provide more definitive evidence about their carcinogenic potential.

Not only are the three studies of reserpine methodologically wanting, but "the abrupt removal of its use may put millions of hypertensives at increased risk of cardiovascular catastrophe," said Dr. Kaplan, a Professor of Internal Medicine at the Texas

Southwestern Medical School, Dallas. He found four basic faults with the studies:

### 'Spuriously Low Exposure'

● "The control populations almost certainly had a spuriously low exposure to reserpine. In the Boston study, all patients with any cardiovascular disease were excluded, thereby removing most of the potential reserpine users. In the English study, only 0.43 percent of the controls had exposure to reserpine. Based upon crude estimates that 33 percent of women over 50 have hypertension and that one-fourth of these are on antihypertensive therapy and, in turn, one-fourth of these are on reserpine, the exposure should be 2 percent."

● All three studies were retrospective.

● "There was unevenness in the matching of users and nonusers in the 50- to 59-year age groups of the Boston series and a decreased proportion of such patients in the Finnish series."

● "Two potentially important risk factors for both hypertension plus reserpine use and carcinoma of the breast were not taken into account, namely, body weight and parity."

Dr. Howard D. Cohn, vice-president of the CIBA-Geigy Corporation, reserpine's principal manufacturer, and medical director of the company's pharmaceuticals division, criticized the studies for their use of the relative risk concept and also disputed the applicability of their results to the general population.

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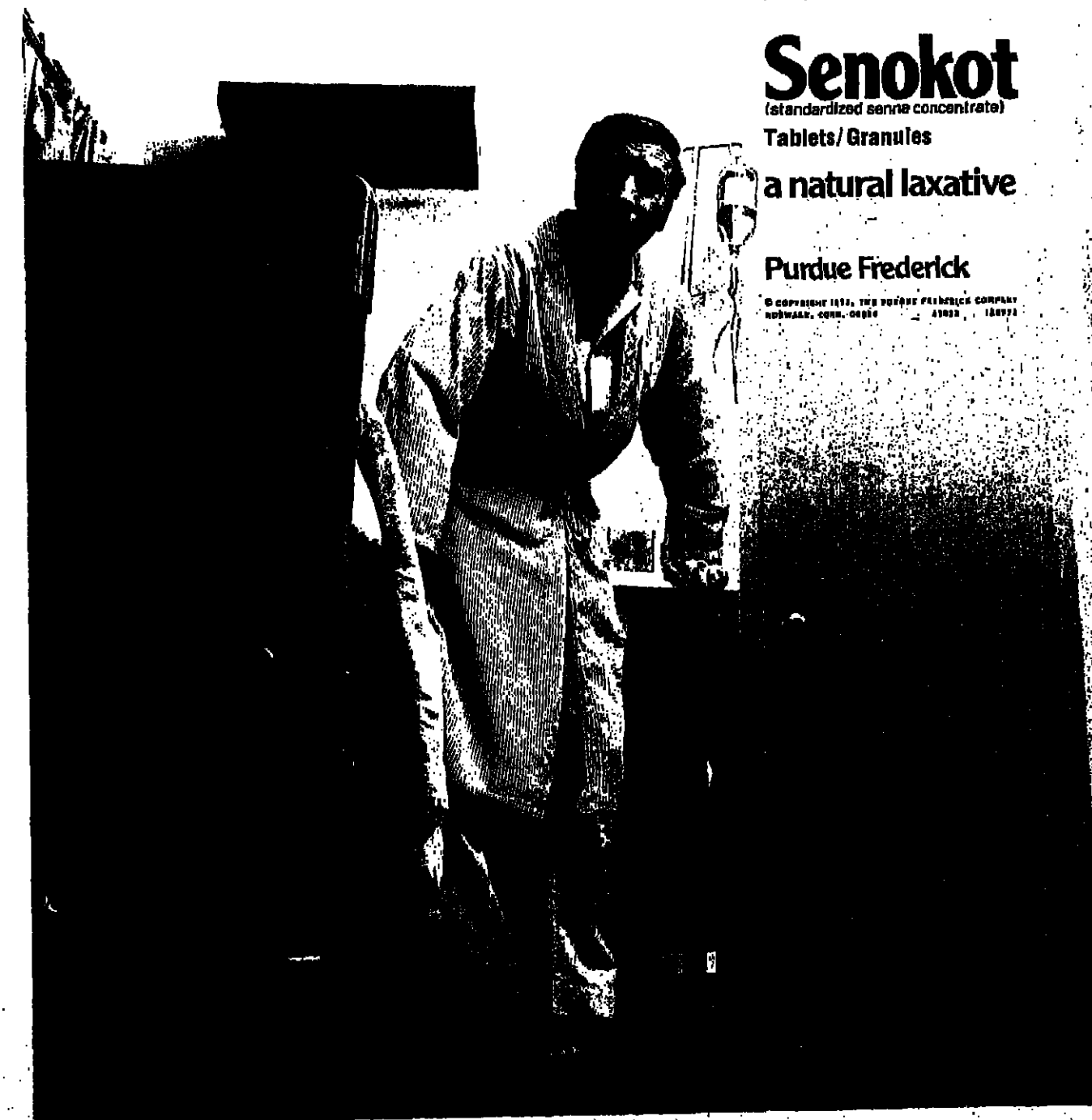
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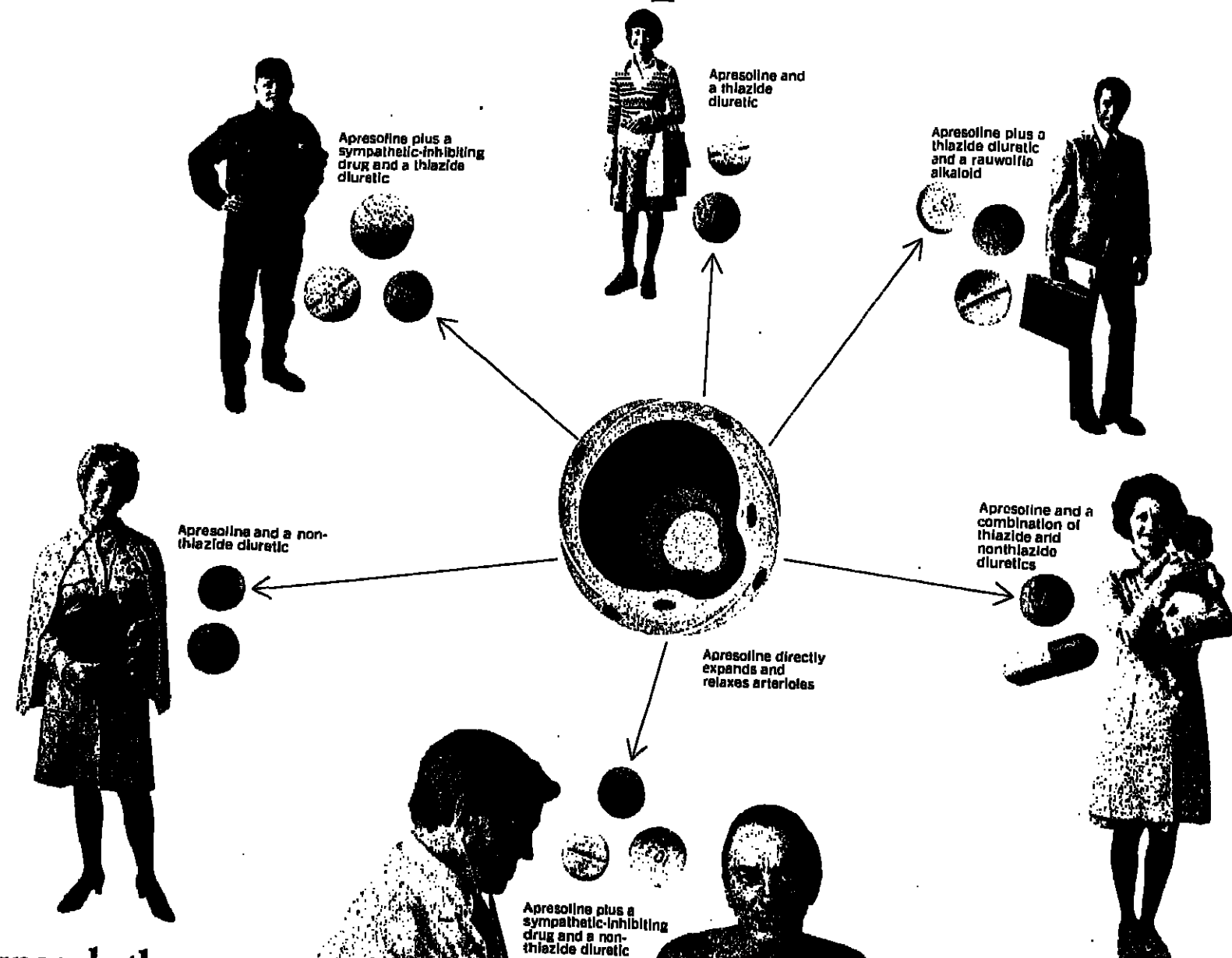
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### Apresoline® hydrochloride (hydralazine hydrochloride)

**TABLETS**  
Essential hypertension, alone or as an adjunct.  
**CONTRAINDICATIONS**  
Hypersensitivity, coronary artery disease, mitral valvular rheumatic heart disease.  
**WARNINGS**  
Chronic administration of doses over 400 mg per day may produce an arthritis-like syndrome leading to a clinical picture simulating acute systemic lupus erythematosus. This may also occur at lower doses. Most of these reactions are reversible upon withdrawal of therapy, but long-term treatment with steroids may be necessary and residual blood counts, i.e., cell preparations and complete blood counts, should be performed during therapy, even though patient is asymptomatic. These studies are also indicated in the presence of any unexplained symptoms.

Use MAO inhibitors with caution.  
**Usage in Pregnancy**  
The drug should be used only when, in the judgment of the physician, it is deemed essential to the welfare of the patient.  
**PRECAUTIONS**  
Use cautiously in suspected coronary artery or other cardiovascular disease, cerebral vascular accidents, and advanced renal damage. Postural hypotension may occur, and the pressor response to epinephrine may be reduced.  
Peripheral neuritis, evidenced by paresthesias, numbness, and tingling, has been observed. Prolonged evidence suggests an antipyridoxine effect and addition of pyridoxine to the regimen if symptoms develop.  
Blood dyscrasias, consisting of reduction in hemoglobin and red cell count, leukopenia, agranulocytosis, and purpura, have been reported rarely. Periodic blood counts are advised during prolonged therapy.  
**ADVERSE REACTIONS**  
Common: headache, palpitations, anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tachycardia, angina pectoris.

Less frequent: Nasal congestion, flushing, lacrimation, conjunctivitis, peripheral neuritis, gingivitis, edema, dizziness, tremor, muscle cramps, disorientation, or anxiety, hypersensitivity (including rash, urticaria, pruritus, fever, chills, arthritis, difficulty in micturition, dyspnea, paralytic ileus, lymphadenopathy, epidermal necrosis, blood dyscrasias, containing leukopenia, agranulocytosis, and purpura; hypotension; paradoxical pressor response).  
**DOSEAGE**  
Initiate therapy in gradually increasing dosages, 10 mg 4 times daily for the first 2 to 4 days, increase to 25 mg 4 times daily for balance of first week. For second and subsequent weeks, increase dosage to 50 mg 4 times daily. For maintenance, adjust dosage to lowest effective level.  
L.E. cell syndrome, in high in the group of patients receiving large doses of Apresoline.

In a few resistant patients, up to 300 mg Apresoline daily may be required for a significant antihypertensive effect. In such cases, a lower dosage of Apresoline combined with a thiazide, reserpine, or both may be considered. However, when combining therapy, individual titration is essential to insure the lowest possible therapeutic dose of each drug.  
**HOW SUPPLIED**  
Tablets, 10 mg (pale yellow, dry-coated); bottles of 100 and 1,000.  
Tablets, 25 mg (deep blue, dry-coated); bottles of 100, 500, and 1,000.  
Tablets, 50 mg (pink, dry-coated); bottles of 100, 500, and 1,000.  
Tablets, 100 mg (peach, dry-coated); bottles of 100, 500, and 1,000.  
Consult complete literature before prescribing.

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C I B A

### Tribune Economic Analysis



## Helping the Stock Market's Investors

By ELIOT JANEWAY  
Consulting Economist

The stock market has now been hurt so badly and is hurting so many people that remedial measures are becoming nearly as practical as public service jobs for the unemployed. The bill introduced by Sen. Lloyd Bentsen

(D-Tex.) points the way to help the stock market. But although Sen. Bentsen has been a voice in the wilderness on the subject, it does not go far enough. The Bentsen Bill calls for liberalizing the long-standing taxpayer's right to deduct \$1,000 a year of market losses from taxable income by increasing the deductible limit to \$4,000. The rationale is that everything else has quadrupled since this deduction was legalized.

The theory is fine, but putting it into practice on the scale of \$4,000 per taxpayer, with losses per year, will not help them or the market or the situation. The way to bring first aid to everyone wounded in and dependent upon the stock market is to liberalize the ceiling to a meaningful amount—or, better still, to take the ceiling off

altogether—subject to conditions that will protect the public interest, bring relief to victims of the storm and pump life back into the market.

Attaching two such conditions to this liberalized loss-taking would help revitalize the Treasury as well as the market. The first is similar to the deferral privilege given homeowners who take a profit setting and then reinvest in a new home. It would require reinvestment within six months in securities paying interest or dividends taxable as ordinary income. The other would require some reasonable but meaningful portion of the reinvested proceeds of loss-taking to go into non-negotiable U.S. Treasury securities, which would pay interest taxable as ordinary income.

There's no shortcut to beating in-

flation except for taxpayers to have an incentive to buy and hold Treasury securities for a period of years.

With all your harping on liquidity, you seem to write only for the fat cats. I'm a young physician, just starting out. These high interest rate investors are starving me. Where can I borrow money cheaply?

Young M.D., New Jersey

Absolutely nowhere. That's the cause of the trouble! The banks and the fat-cat retailers are making more money lending on small loans than on anything else—twice the prime rate. Your only recourse is to try to put aside a little cash and use the buying power it will give you as a bargaining lever. Remember: those trying to sell you are apt to need cash even more than you.

# Pain: a call to action.



Whenever an APC/narcotic is indicated.

## Percodan®

Each yellow, round tablet contains 450 mg. oxycodone HCl (Warning: May be habit forming), 32 mg. aspirin, 160 mg. phenacetin, and 32 mg. caffeine.

**INDICATIONS:** For the relief of moderate to moderately severe pain.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Hypersensitivity to oxycodone, aspirin, phenacetin or caffeine.

**WARNINGS:** Drug Dependence: Oxycodone can produce drug dependence of the morphine type and, therefore, has the potential for being abused. Psychic dependence, physical dependence and tolerance may develop upon repeated administration of Percodan, and it should be prescribed and administered with the same degree of caution appropriate to the use of other oral narcotic-containing preparations. Lifelong therapy containing narcotics. Percodan is subject to the Federal Controlled Substances Act.

**Usage in pregnancy:** Oxycodone may impair the mental and/or physical abilities required for the performance of potentially hazardous tasks such as driving a car or operating machinery. The patient using Percodan should be cautioned accordingly.

**Interaction with other central nervous system depressants:** Patients receiving other narcotic analgesics, general anesthetics, phenothiazines, other tranquilizers, sedative-hypnotics or other CNS depressants (including alcohol) concomitantly with Percodan may exhibit an additive CNS depression. When such combined therapy is contemplated, the doses of one or both agents should be reduced.

**Usage in children:** Safe use in pregnancy has not been established relative to possible adverse effects on fetal development. Therefore, Percodan should not be used in pregnant women unless, in the judgment of the physician, the potential benefits outweigh the possible hazards.

**Usage in children:** Percodan should not be administered to children.

**Safety:** Safety should be maintained with caution in the presence of psychic or respiratory depression.

**PRECAUTIONS:** Head injury and increased intracranial pressure: The respiratory depressant effects of narcotics and their capacity to elevate cerebrospinal fluid pressure may be markedly augmented in the presence of head injury or intracranial lesions or a pre-existing increase in intracranial pressure. Furthermore, narcotics produce adverse reactions which may obscure the clinical course of patients with head injuries.

**Acute abdominal conditions:** The administration of Percodan or other narcotics may obscure the diagnosis or clinical course in patients with acute abdominal conditions.

**Special caution:** Percodan should be given with caution to certain patients such as the elderly or debilitated, and those with severe impairment of hepatic or renal function, hypothyroidism, Addison's disease, and prostatic hypertrophy or ureteral obstruction.

**Other adverse reactions:** Includes epistaxis, dysphoria, constipation and pruritus.

**DOSEAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:** Dosage should be adjusted according to the severity of the pain and the response of the patient. It may occasionally be necessary to exceed the usual dosage recommended below in cases of more severe pain or in those patients who have become tolerant to the analgesic effect of narcotics. The usual adult dose is one tablet every six hours as needed for pain.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:** The CNS depressant effects of Percodan may be additive with that of other CNS depressants. See WARNINGS.

**Aspirin may enhance the effect of anticoagulants and inhibit the effect of antidiabetic agents.**

**MANAGEMENT OF OVERDOSEAGE:** Signs and Symptoms: Severe overdose with Percodan is characterized by respiratory depression, extreme miosis, progressing to stupor or coma, skeletal muscle flaccidity, cold and clammy skin, and sometimes hypotension and hypothermia. In severe overdosage, apnea, circulatory collapse, cardiac arrest and death may occur. The ingestion of very large amounts of Percodan may, in addition, result in acute salicylate intoxication.

**Rescue:** Primary attention should be given to the reestablishment of adequate respiratory exchange through provision of a patent airway and the institution of artificial or controlled ventilation. The narcotic antagonist naloxone, or naltrexone or levorphanol are specific antidotes against respiratory depression which may result from overdose or unusual sensitivity to narcotics, including oxycodone. Therefore, an appropriate dose of one of these antagonists should be administered, preferably by the intravenous route, concomitantly with efforts at respiratory resuscitation. Since the duration of action of oxycodone may exceed that of the antagonist, the patient should be kept under continued surveillance and repeated doses of the antagonist should be administered as needed to maintain adequate respiration.

An emetic should not be administered in the absence of clinically significant respiratory or circulatory depression.

Cupren, intravenous fluid, vasopressor and other supportive measures should be instituted as indicated.

Gastric emptying may be useful in removing unabsorbed drug.

- rapid acting
- effective, reliable oral analgesia
- in moderate to moderately severe pain
- oxycodone, the principal ingredient of Percodan, is one of the more readily absorbed oral narcotic analgesics
- one tablet q. 6 h\*

## Tablets Percodan®

Each yellow, round tablet contains 450 mg. oxycodone HCl (Warning: May be habit forming), 32 mg. aspirin, 160 mg. phenacetin, and 32 mg. caffeine.

See facing page for Brief Summary.

\*See dosage and administration section of Brief Summary.

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If there's good reason  
to prescribe  
for psychic tension...



When, for example, despite counseling,  
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Prompt action  
is a good reason  
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(diazepam)

When your patient's somatic complaints are associated with tension and anxiety and you have tried counseling and other supportive measures alone, you may decide to prescribe psychotherapeutic medication. If you do, the question remains: which one?

Valium (diazepam) is one to consider closely. One that works promptly as an adjunct to continued supportive measures. One that generally produces significant improvement within the first few days of therapy, although some patients may require more time for a clearcut response.

Prompt action. One good reason to consider Valium.

And should you choose to prescribe Valium, you should also keep this information in mind. Valium is usually well tolerated. Patients taking Valium should be cautioned against operating dangerous machinery or driving. Therapy with Valium should normally be continued until the patient's psychic tension symptoms have been reduced to tolerable levels.

Please turn page for a summary of product information.

**Valium<sup>®</sup>** ROCHE  
(diazepam)

2-mg, 5-mg, 10-mg tablets

# Valium® (diazepam)

Before prescribing, please consult complete product information, a summary of which follows:

**Indications:** Tension and anxiety states; somatic complaints which are concomitants of emotional factors; psychoneurotic states manifested by tension, anxiety, apprehension, fatigue, depressive symptoms or agitation; symptomatic relief of acute agitation, tremor, delirium tremens and hallucinosis due to acute alcohol withdrawal; adjunctively in skeletal muscle spasm due to reflex spasm to local pathology, spasticity caused by upper motor neuron disorders, athetosis, stiff-man syndrome, convulsive disorders (not for sole therapy).

**Contraindicated:** Known hypersensitivity to the drug. Children under 6 months of age. Acute narrow angle glaucoma; may be used in patients with open angle glaucoma who are receiving appropriate therapy.

**Warnings:** Not of value in psychotic patients. Caution against hazardous occupations requiring complete mental alertness. When used adjunctively in convulsive disorders, possibility of increase in frequency and/or severity of grand mal seizures may require increased dosage of standard anti-convulsant medication; abrupt withdrawal may be associated with temporary increase in frequency and/or severity of seizures.

Advise against simultaneous ingestion of alcohol and other CNS depressants. Withdrawal symptoms (similar to those with barbiturates and alcohol) have occurred following abrupt discontinuance (convulsions, tremor, abdominal and muscle cramps, vomiting and sweating). Keep addiction-prone individuals under careful surveillance because of their predisposition to habituation and dependence. In pregnancy, lactation or women of childbearing age, weigh potential benefit against possible hazard.

**Precautions:** If combined with other psychotropics or anticonvulsants, consider carefully pharmacology of agents employed.

drugs such as phenothiazines, narcotics, barbiturates, MAO inhibitors and other anti-depressants may potentiate its action. Usual precautions indicated in patients severely depressed, or with latent depression, or with suicidal tendencies. Observe usual precautions in impaired renal or hepatic function. Limit dosage to smallest effective amount in elderly and debilitated to preclude ataxia or over-sedation.

**Side Effects:** Drowsiness, confusion, diplopia, hypotension, changes in libido, nausea, fatigue, depression, dysarthria, jaundice, skin rash, ataxia, constipation, headache, incontinence, changes in salivation, slurred speech, tremor, vertigo, urinary retention, blurred vision. Paradoxical reactions such as acute hyperexcited states, anxiety, hallucinations, increased muscle spasticity, insomnia, rage, sleep disturbances, stimulation have been reported; should these occur, discontinue drug. Isolated reports of neutropenia, jaundice; periodic blood counts and liver function tests advisable during long-term therapy.

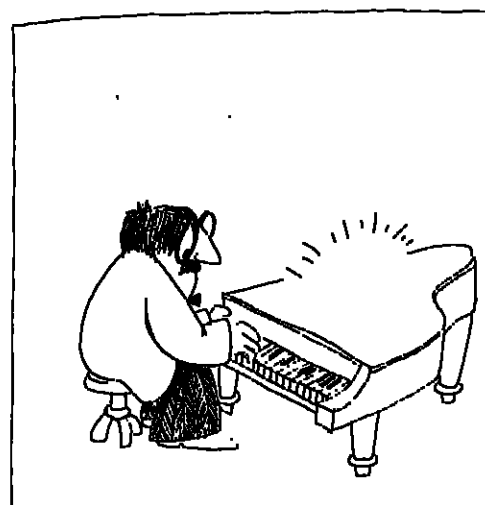
**Dosage:** Individualize for maximum beneficial effect. **Adults:** Tension, anxiety and psychoneurotic states, 2 to 10 mg b.i.d. to q.i.d.; alcoholism, 10 mg t.i.d. or q.i.d. in first 24 hours, then 5 mg t.i.d. or q.i.d. as needed; adjunctively in skeletal muscle spasm, 2 to 10 mg t.i.d. or q.i.d.; adjunctively in convulsive disorders, 2 to 10 mg b.i.d. to q.i.d. **Geriatric or debilitated patients:** 2 to 2½ mg, 1 or 2 times daily initially, increasing as needed and tolerated. (See Precautions.) **Children:** 1 to 2½ mg t.i.d. or q.i.d. initially, increasing as needed and tolerated (not for use under 6 months).

**Supplied:** Valium® (diazepam) Tablets, 2 mg, 5 mg and 10 mg; bottles of 100 and 500. All strengths also available in Tel-E-Dose® packages of 100.



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## Clinical Trials



by Olden

## TRIBUNE SPORTS REPORT

### Middle-Aged Fitness Fans Warned About Jogger's Heel

Medical Tribune Report

NEW YORK—Jogger's heel—the latest side effect of the fitness craze—continues to pop up in radiologic and orthopedic practice, a leading radiologist reported here.

Warning "gung-ho nonathletes" to take it easy, Dr. Tom W. Staple of St. Louis said radiologists are seeing examples of painful heel calcification in the overzealous middle-aged male jogger, as well as in out-of-practice young athletes.

He explains that "jogger's heel" results from the repeated stress of flat-footed trotting, and appears on the x-ray as a "cloud of density in the heel. It stems either from compression of bone or the laying down of new bone."

Dr. Staple, who is Professor of Radiology at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, Washington University, told

a Medical X-Ray Forum for Science Writers: "You see jogger's heel in the 40-year-old guy who is gung-ho and planning to get back into shape or in the young guy who has done nothing all winter and wants to impress the coach at the spring training turnout."

He commented that the majority of what are called athletic injuries are seen in amateurs or in nonathletes, rather than in professional athletes. "I suggest that such injuries should not be called athletic injuries, but injuries from participation in athletics," he said.

Dr. Staple estimated that approximately 40 per cent of the most common stress fractures occur in the heel, another 40 per cent in the forefoot, and the remaining 20 per cent in other portions of the skeleton.

The X-Ray Forum was sponsored by the American College of Radiology.



A normal heel (upper x-ray) compared with a "jogger's heel," showing either compression of the bone or the laying down of new bone.

### Muscle Relaxation Credited to Acupuncture

By PATRICIA McBROOM

Special Tribune Correspondent

PHILADELPHIA—One effect of acupuncture may be to relax chronically tense muscles, according to preliminary observations by a psychiatrist at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

With an electromyograph, Dr. Arnold H. Gessel has recorded substantial declines in muscle tension at the site of pain in two patients after acupuncture. The decreased tension—in muscles tight to the point of spasm—compared with the best results of biofeedback control, said Dr. Gessel, a specialist in biofeedback and relaxation therapies.

Dr. Gessel conceded that two cases were a very small series, but said that since the changes seen were profound and clearly linked in time to the acupuncture treatments, and an investigation should be undertaken into the relationship between acupuncture and muscles relaxation.

"I think muscular relaxation could explain some of the reported effects of acupuncture," said Dr. Gessel. "This has all the earmarks of a real phenomenon."

Dr. Gessel also tested muscle tension in six other acupuncture patients, all but one of whom showed decreased contraction rates after the twenty-minute needling session. Contraction rates declined from moderately elevated to normal during and after the acupuncture.

Most of the patients in the study had a diagnosis of arthritis, with pains in the back, hip, shoulder or legs.

#### 2 Cases Described

In a report to the World Acupuncture Conference in Philadelphia, sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Gessel described one of his two cases as that of a 50-year-old woman with pain and numbness of the right shoulder and arm. The right trapezius muscle was extremely tight, with spasmodic levels of contraction—about 100 microvolts—before acupuncture, despite ten minutes of relaxation prior to treatment. Normal EMG readings, Dr. Gessel said should have been about 15 microvolts.

When the needles were placed, readings on the trapezius declined to 50 microvolts and by the end of the acupuncture session, they were at 10

microvolts. The same phenomenon occurred at the second acupuncture session. On the third occasion, the woman said she was feeling better. That day, for the first time, muscle tension in her shoulder read 80 microvolts rather than 100, before treatment.

Dr. Gessel speculated that acupuncture over time may have "retrained" the muscle to lower rates of contraction. He did not know why needles should have such an effect, especially since they were not placed in the muscle itself, but in traditional acupuncture points aimed at shoulder pain.

In the second case, a fifty-year-old man was treated for pain in his calf, which he said was due to phlebitis. Dr. Gessel's electrodes picked up tension readings of 400 microvolts on the gastrocnemius muscle in the calf (compared to normal readings of about 25 microvolts in the relaxed state).

After acupuncture, EMG readings dropped to 150 microvolts. Clinical improvement is as yet undetermined, Dr. Gessel said.

## IMMATERIA MEDICA

By DUDLEY STRAUS

### Odds and Ends

• Ethnic note: we see, in an HEW release, that the Navy Alcohol Abuse Control Program is referred to as the AACP.

• The First Hair Transplant Symposium and Workshop was held in Hot Springs, Ark., and featured "a comprehensive series of lectures and panel discussions, and a workshop with cadaver heads," we learn from a recent release.

• New Scientist reports that the Toronto Star reports that a Pompano Beach, Fla., man has developed a talking tombstone that also shows moving pictures of the deceased. No popcorn machine, as far as we know.

• "Washington (UPI)—The House today came within six votes of settling an eight-year-old fight of what to do about the crumbling west wall of the Capitol Building, and agreed to put off a decision for another two years."

—United Press International wire service.

And that's where we are these days.

• "... and assuming that it requires an average of one pack [of cigarettes] a day for 20 years (146,000 'coffin nails') for an individual to develop lung carcinoma..."

—Minnesota Medicine.

Wait till you start coping with the metric system!

• "An HEW study of the biologic and behavior changes of age indicates the aged demonstrate 'great reserves of energy, intellect, and enthusiasm' in adapting to circumstances."

—release from the National Institute of Mental Health.

Now if you'll just name some circumstances...

• Dr. Milton H. Erickson of Phoenix found an old friend in a new form in the Phoenix Gazette:

"Abdominal incisions always can be seen, although in some instances they can be concealed by the public hair-line."

EN 2



The Upper Functional G.I. Disorder

# The Pseudo-ulcer



Ulcer-like

Ulcer-like symptoms: no G.I. pathology

The patient is convinced it's an ulcer. However, symptoms are not quite typical, and x-ray findings are negative. These findings and the results of additional diagnostic procedures exclude an organic basis for the patient's complaints. A diagnosis of "upper functional gastrointestinal disorder" is made, which is supported by the fact that episodes of painful symptoms coincide with episodes of excessive anxiety, as indicated by the history.

It may be useful to explain to the patient the mechanism by which emotions upset normal G.I. functioning, resulting in hypersecretion and hypermotility and thus causing such symptoms as nausea and epigastric pain. In upper functional gastrointestinal disorders, counseling by the primary physician can often help the patient to understand how excessive anxiety may cause flare-ups of G.I. symptoms.

A disproportionate number of patients seen by the general practitioner suffer from functional disorders, as do more than half of those seen by the gastroenterologist.\* Where milder cases may respond to counsel-

ing alone, if symptoms are severe and disabling to any degree, a suitable regimen may include medication to reduce the symptoms and the excessive anxiety that often provokes these distressing symptoms.

In these cases, Librax as an adjunct can greatly contribute to the course of therapy. Its dual action can offer relief of both painful symptoms and excessive anxiety, because each capsule contains 5 mg chlorthalidone HCl and 2.5 mg clidinium Br. The antianxiety action of Librium® (chloridiazepoxide HCl) makes Librax exceptional

An adjunct in anxiety-related upper functional G.I. disorders

**Librax®**

Each capsule contains 5 mg chlorthalidone HCl and 2.5 mg clidinium Br.

pregnancy, lactation, or in women of childbearing age requires that its potential benefits be weighed against its possible hazards. As with all anticholinergic drugs, an inhibiting effect on lactation may occur.

**Precautions:** In elderly and debilitated, limit dosage to smallest effective amount to preclude development of ataxia, oversedation or confusion (not more than two capsules per day initially; increase gradually as needed and tolerated). Though generally not recommended, if combination therapy with other psychotropics seems indicated, carefully consider individual pharmacologic effects, particularly in use of potent sedating drugs such as MAO inhibitors and phenothiazines. Observe usual precautions in presence of impaired renal or hepatic function. Paradoxical reactions (e.g., excitement, stimulation and acute rage) have been reported in psychiatric patients. Employ usual precautions in treatment of anxiety states with evidence of impending depression; suicidal tendencies may be present and protective measures necessary. Variable effects on blood coagulation have been reported very rarely in patients receiving the drug and oral anticoagulants; causal relationship has not been established clinically.

**Adverse Reactions:** No side effects or manifestations not seen with either compound alone have been reported with Librax. When chlorthalidone hydrochloride is used alone, drowsi-

ness, ataxia and confusion may occur, especially in the elderly and debilitated. These are reversible in most instances by proper dosage adjustment, but are also occasionally observed at the lower dosage ranges. In a few instances syncope has been reported. Also encountered are isolated instances of skin eruptions, edema, minor menstrual irregularities, nausea and constipation, extrapyramidal symptoms, increased and decreased libido—all infrequent and generally controlled with dosage reduction; changes in EEG patterns (low-voltage fast activity) may appear during and after treatment; blood dyscrasias (including agranulocytosis), jaundice and hepatic dysfunction have been reported occasionally with chlorthalidone hydrochloride, making periodic blood counts and liver function tests advisable during protracted therapy. Adverse effects reported with Librax are typical of anticholinergic agents, i.e., dryness of mouth, blurring of vision, urinary hesitancy and constipation. Constipation has occurred most often when Librax therapy is combined with other spasmolytics and/or low residue diets.

**ROCHE** Roche Laboratories Division of Hoffmann-La Roche Inc. Nutley, New Jersey 07110

Wednesday, March 13, 1974

MEDICAL TRIBUNE

7

## Doctors' Debate

MEDICAL TRIBUNE frequently receives extensive and well-documented communications from physicians on current subjects of controversy or those of great current medical interest. We invite contributions in these areas for presentation in this new feature.

### Death Belongs to Physician

The matter of determining or certifying death continues to plague a number of our abstract philosophers. The consensus in protocol and at least legislatively is that the determination of death is the responsibility of physicians, basing their decision on customary standards of medical practice.

It should be further clarified that the determination of death is a diagnosis. If this simple fact of practice is understood, there is less controversy.

The public as a whole, and individuals in particular, go to the physician for the diagnosis of a variety of complex, subtle, and sophisticated diseases. They trust their physicians.

The guidelines for physicians are threefold. First and foremost is the physician-patient contractual relationship. This may be implied or explicit. When a patient comes to a doctor's office or when a patient enters a hospital, he expects to have his condition or his disease treated and rectified. Second, there is an ethical guide which mandates that the physician shall do everything in the best interests of the individual patient. To do the best things in the best interests of society primarily would lead us into a Pandora's Box of physicians with an unacceptable power—a utilitarian ethic and a disrespect for life. The physician's ethic can best be summarized for a civilized society in the simple phrase: "Love thy neighbor, and do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Third, the physician is guided by scientific competence in making decisions, whether it relates to cancer of the stomach, gallbladder disease, brain tumor, or indeed the recognition of the irreversibility of functional processes. After assessing the presenting factors (signs and symptoms), he may appropriately come to a decision, based only on his objective criteria.

Since death is a diagnosis and since it is faced continuously by physicians in practice, it is curious that we have so many philosophers in the abstract, who intrude into an area in which they have little or no expertise and indeed competence. For Robert Veatch to intrude into an area of science is indeed not just a curiosity but also an insidious activity that only leads to confusion in the public mind.

Before Mr. Veatch starts commenting on highly technical elements, such as that presented by Dr. Boshe on EEG activity or on other criteria, which together result in a diagnosis, Mr. Veatch should take an adequate internship as a hospital chaplain or philosopher and be a firsthand observer of the diagnostic process. To be tempered in the fire of actual duty, obligation, and responsibility usually enables a person to gain a respect for life and to understand the dilemmas that may be faced. Until this is done, armchair philosophers should cease and desist from creating an atmosphere of fear and chaos.

### Surgical Approach to the Lumbar Disk

I cannot agree too strongly with Dr. J. Dewitt Fox that most neurosurgeons would take exception to Dr. Norman Shealy's approach to the lumbar disk syndrome by attacking what he feels to be the mechanism of pain conduction. Aside from the inherent unsoundness of attacking any pain problem as the primary target in a disorder where pain has a correctable or removable source, it is my feeling that the reputation for poor results in the surgical management of lumbar disk and related syndromes is largely unjustified and mostly related to poor comprehension of the problem, with resultant poor selection of patient and poor selection of operative procedure.

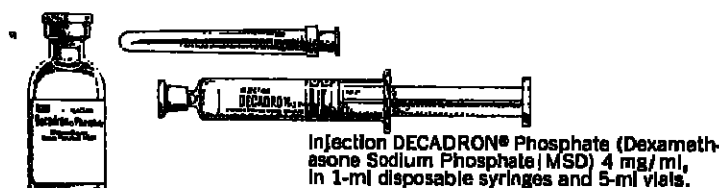
The dwelling, by both Dr. Shealy

and Dr. Fox, on the fallibility rate of myelography makes at least part of my point. The diagnosis of herniated nucleus pulposus is a clinical diagnosis based on history and careful neurologic examination. In my opinion, myelography is not indicated and should not be done where the history and findings are unequivocal and the level of disability and duration of symptoms indicate the necessity for surgery. In my opinion, myelography has a substantial fallibility rate (whether 15 per cent or 30 per cent is immaterial), and its usefulness is primarily in those atypical back and radicular syndromes where bilaterality of symptoms and/or findings, or the indication of multiple segment involvement, may suggest other problems.

My experience of nearly 30 years in

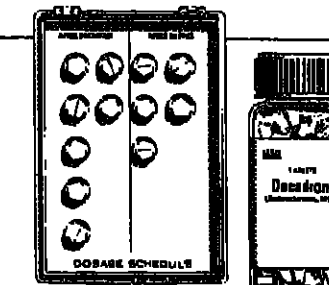
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INJECTABLE



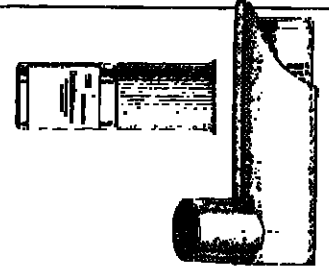
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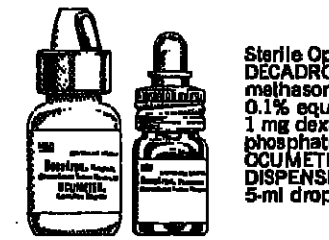
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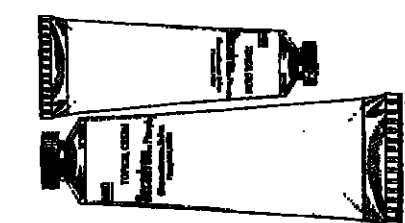
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## Exercise Stressed to Reduce Crippling of Hemophiliacs

Medical Tribune Report

NEW YORK—The key roles of exercise and nonsurgical management in preventing or lessening the musculoskeletal crippling of hemophilic patients were described here by Dr. Shelby L. Dietrich, of Orthopaedic Hospital, Los Angeles.

Dr. Dietrich, who heads the hospital's hemophilia treatment center, now with some 300 patients, said its habilitation program rests on the Hippocratic maxim that "activity strengthens and inactivity weakens."

Patients are urged to take part in functional and recreational activities appropriate to their age after evaluation by a multidisciplinary team, she said, speaking at a conference on hemophilia cosponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences and the National Hemophilia Foundation.

Emphasizing the importance of prompt attention to a hemarthrosis, Dr. Dietrich advised that treatment with plasma concentrates should begin even before swelling is evident. If an effusion is present in the knee, ankle, or elbow, the center's policy is to perform aspiration under coverage of concentrate when the level of factor VIII or factor IX reaches 30 per cent of normal.

### On Crutches for Day or Two

After aspiration of the knee, the patient uses crutches for one to two days. Isometric quadriceps exercise is started when the affected knee is pain-free, and the patient later progresses to more active exercises.

A study at the center of 50 knee arthrocenteses managed in this manner showed a significant decrease in the short-term morbidity associated with hemarthroses, although the ultimate effect of such therapy on the development of chronic hemophilic arthropathy is not yet known.

Hemorrhage into a major joint may initiate a cycle of bleeding, immobilization, atrophy of muscles adjacent to the joint, weakness, and synovitis—a situation Dr. Dietrich describes as leading almost inevitably to recurrent bleeding, chronic synovitis, and finally cartilage and bone destruction.

Prevention of this cycle, and arrest of progressive joint damage, may be possible "by vigorous and early application of medical, orthopedic, and physical therapeutic measures."

The center employs daily short-term prophylaxis with the proper concentrate to protect the joints from further bleeding and to permit active strengthening exercises. When synovitis is a prominent finding, treatment includes administration of anti-inflammatory drugs (in short courses) as well as analgesics.

The treatment of chronic synovitis of the knee begins with isometric and

### 'Family Medicine Units'

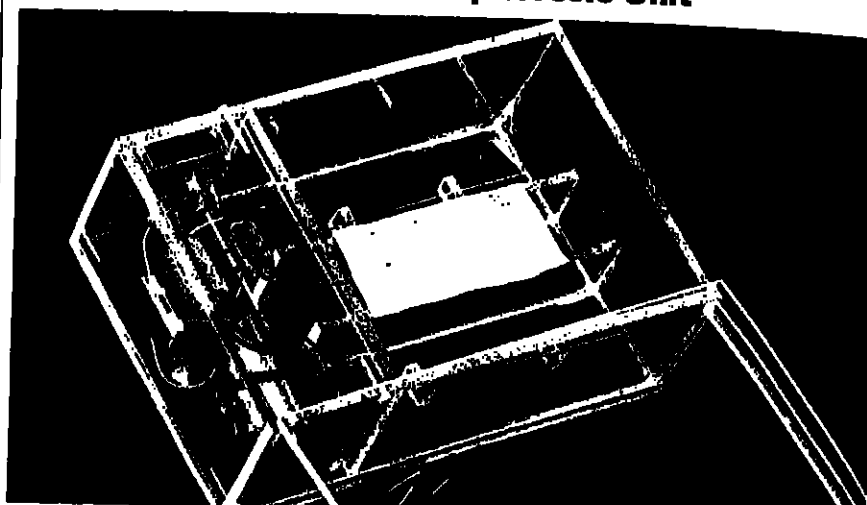
MONTREAL—Government-financed "family medicine units" are being set up in five hospitals affiliated with McGill University to look not only at patients but also at relevant social pressures on their families.

active-assistive exercises and progresses according to the patient's tolerance. Concurrently, a special cylinder case or splint may be used to protect the knee.

### Plasma Concentrates Given

Rehabilitation of the hemophilic who has undergone reconstructive surgery does not differ significantly from that of the nonhemophilic patient recovering from a similar procedure, Dr. Dietrich said. Plasma concentrates are given to maintain a factor level of 30 per cent of normal during the postoperative period, and appropriate exercise is started at that time.

## Low-Cost Electrophoresis Unit



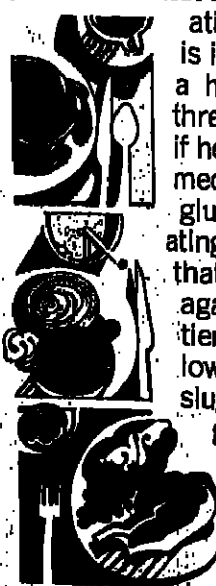
A new electrophoresis instrument built by biomedical personnel at the Naval Electronics Center in San Diego costs only \$150, including parts and labor. The cell, using a built-in power supply and an acrylic body, is based on a design developed at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

## Upjohn The glucose tolerance curve: Diagnostic?...Deceptive?

The oral glucose tolerance test is usually considered the chief means to establish a diagnosis of diabetes. The patterns of plasma glucose disappearance following ingestion of a glucose challenge can, in most cases, indicate whether the patient in question is normal or has diabetes mellitus. However, it should be remembered that in certain instances the glucose tolerance test may be limited and its interpretations distorted by variables caused by the status of the patient's metabolic system. The patient's age, bedrest, concurrent infection, concomitant drug therapy, and testing technique may also influence the test results. Following is a discussion of practical factors that can influence the validity of this most important test.

### Are the patient's metabolic mechanisms in "peak" operating condition?

There is significant diurnal variation in oral glucose tolerance; testing in the morning will result in lower readings than in the afternoon or evening. Plasma immunoreactive insulin levels, however, are highest in a morning test. It would seem advisable to perform the test at a standard time to avoid the variation in glucose and insulin levels. It is important that the patient consume a high-carbohydrate diet for at least three days before the test (and longer if he is undernourished). The metabolic mechanisms being challenged by the glucose load should be in "peak" operating condition before the challenge, so that the results may be interpreted against standard criteria. If the patient's normal carbohydrate intake is low, his insulin response will tend to be sluggish and he may very well show a glucose tolerance curve suggestive of mild diabetes. This can be prevented by the simple expedient of reviving the sluggish mechanisms through a few days of pretest carbohydrate "forcing."



### Drugs affect glucose tolerance

Certain drugs are known to affect glucose tolerance. Oral contraceptives, glucocorticoids, thiazide diuretics, and high doses of nicotinic acid all tend to increase blood glucose. On the other hand, aspirin and other salicylates can decrease blood glucose.

### Fever impairs glucose tolerance test

Febrile infections impair glucose tolerance in diabetic patients, and this phenomenon occurs also in some people who apparently do not have diabetes. It is of questionable value to test for diabetes in persons who have signs or symptoms of an infection. As standard procedure, body temperature should be recorded at the beginning and end of each glucose tolerance test. Nevertheless, glucose tolerance testing should not be performed in the presence of infection or fever if standardized results are to be achieved.

### Bedrest distorts

There is a significant reduction in glucose tolerance during prolonged bedrest, and this reduction may take place in as little as 72 hours after the onset of absolute bedrest. It appears that prolonged physical inactivity induces peripheral insulin resistance which in turn causes the muscles to fail to utilize glucose normally. This fact should be borne in mind when the need for testing arises in patients who have been subjected to long periods of hospitalization and bedrest. To obtain meaningful readings in these patients, the role of physical inactivity should be considered in the interpretation of glucose tolerance tests, especially in the bedridden hospitalized patient.

### Are older patients actually different?

It appears that the glucose tolerance curve undergoes changes as the patient ages, and curves

## One Man...and Medicine

ARTHUR M. SACKLER, M.D.,  
International Publisher, Medical Tribune



### Postmortem

When Doubleday sent me the book *Post-Mortem*, I noted the author was David M. Spain, a physician often in the news in civil-rights cases. In the line of duty, I tackled *Post-Mortem*. What I found was interesting. I thought the book would plug political pathology—it told of a highly personal pathology. I expected passionate partisanship—I found the author revealed as a liberal

but a pathologist who tries to put his prejudice and preferences aside when he picks up his scalpel for a post-mortem. "It would seem that unremitting ex-

posure to so much ugliness, pain, and deceit would instill a cynical and despairing view of humanity. However, the contrary is true." Before going forward to the dissecting table and studying the "cut up bits of former life," Dr. Spain has "a self-imposed daily routine of silent prayer composed of the words spoken by Shakespeare's Hamlet: 'What a piece of work is man! how noble in reason! how infinite in faculty! in form and moving how express and admirable! in action how like an angel! in apprehension how like a god! the beauty of the world! the paragon of animals!'"

With genuine humility, this pathologist examines himself again and again, challenging his own preconceptions, often altering his viewpoint. "I firmly believed that a doctor had no right to play God and decide when to terminate

life. I was categorically opposed to abortion, euthanasia, and suicide. My role was to prolong life, no matter what, even if the patient was dying and in the throes of an agonizing seizure."

I, personally, have long believed and still believe in the right of the individual to abortion and euthanasia, but I am becoming more concerned with the doctor's "right to play god and decide when to terminate life." Dr. Spain has moved the other way and relates it to his experience with murderous illegal abortions and unwanted and battered children.

### A Question of Suicide

In respect to suicide, Dr. Spain writes a revealing and touching passage: "A meeting with a Catholic priest over the wording on a certain death certificate helped me. . . . In my first week as medical examiner, I had certified the death of a middle-aged Catholic man as 'Suicide caused by self-inflicted gunshot wound of the head.' The same day, shortly thereafter, a young Roman Catholic priest from a Yonkers parish came to discuss the wording on this death certificate. He discreetly explained that he had no desire for me to alter my professional evaluation of this or any other case. He then told me something I should have known but of which I confess complete ignorance at that time. The Catholic Church regards the taking of one's own life as a sin, and for this reason the victim cannot be buried with the full sacraments. I suddenly realized that that was the way I felt about suicide too, and that it certainly was no distortion or compromise with the truth to add, 'while temporarily mentally disturbed.'"

How human and humane a reaction.

Dr. Spain's partisanship is clearly stated and equally clearly put aside again and again for nonpartisan and bluntly honest positions as dictated by his findings of fact. Does this "civil-rights pathologist" let his heart rule his head in favor of the poor or the little man, regardless of the evidence? No; with him the facts rule. Witness his findings in a suicide case wherein the surviving wife would have received double indemnity if Dr. Spain had not noted that, though the man was killed by a train while ostensibly fixing a flat tire, he, the pathologist, helped determine that no tire on the car was flat.

"If this staged suicide had not been exposed, the family would have received the one hundred thousand dollars. The testimony of the train engineer, the absence of any defects in the tire, the seemingly contrived hand snudges, and the background of the personal and financial difficulties convinced me that this was a case of suicide. . . . The jury upheld my official opinion and returned a decision in favor of the insurance company."

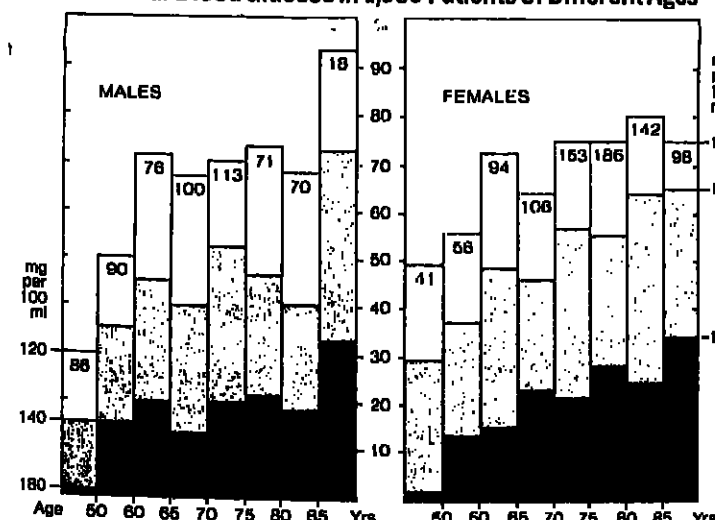
### Letting Facts Rule

When called as an outside pathologist in regard to several suicidal deaths at "The Tombs" prison in New York City, Dr. Spain found one of them suspicious of homicide and, as to the other, the "autopsy revealed no evidence of any beating, and the findings supported the original conclusion that Roldan's death had been suicide by hanging. I reported to the Lords that I concurred with the medical examiner. Continued on following page

that would be considered diagnostic of diabetes in a younger patient may not necessarily indicate diabetes in the older patient. A recent study<sup>2</sup> has shown that fasting blood glucose was more frequently over 100 mg/100 ml in females over 60 than in younger age groups, while this phenomenon was not observed in males. On the other hand, males and females over 60 showed higher two-hour post-glucose reading than did younger patients. In males there was no tendency to increased reading beyond the 60 to 64 age group, while in females higher values became more common with advancing age.



### Two-Hour Blood Glucose in 1,500 Patients of Different Ages



Column heights indicate percentage of each group with two-hour blood glucose readings greater than 120 mg/100 ml.  
The height of the shaded portion indicates percentage of readings over 140.  
Black column height indicates percentage of readings above 180.  
Number in each column refers to number of patients tested.

Some authorities feel that the frequency of the diabetic type of glucose tolerance curve among older people indicates the importance of glucose tolerance testing in such patients. The author of the above study questions the meaning of glucose tolerance test results in the elderly. He points out that "At least it is evident that results obtained should be evaluated on a completely different basis from that applied to younger people."

### Is the curve diagnostic—or reflective of other illness?

Three types of hyperlipidemia (Types III, IV and V) are often associated with impaired glucose tolerance. In Types III and IV, elevated triglyceride levels are carbohydrate-induced; in Type V, carbohydrates and fats tend to raise the triglycerides. All three types are associated with obesity. For practical purposes, abnormal glucose tolerance readings in these conditions should be managed as in ordinary diabetes, with controlled diet, weight reduction, and drug therapy, if necessary.

### The importance of meticulous technique

Since the concentration of glucose in capillary and arterial blood is generally higher than in venous blood, the same source must be used throughout the test, and the nature of the source taken into consideration in interpretation. It is important that whole blood be analyzed within half an hour after collection (unless a preservative such as fluoride is added), since glycolysis takes place in whole blood stored at room temperature. It is also important to remember that whole blood values are 10 to 15 percent lower than plasma values.

References: 1. Lipman, R.L., et al. *Diabetes* 21:101-107 (February) 1972.  
2. Holkinheimo, R. *J. Am. Geriatr. Soc.* 20:55-58 (February) 1972.

### When an oral hypoglycemic agent is indicated in maturity-onset diabetes

When a definitive diagnosis of nonketotic maturity-onset diabetes is made and diet alone has proved insufficient for control, Orinase (tolbutamide, Upjohn) provides the gradual blood-sugar-lowering action that many patients require. The maximal response to Orinase occurs in 5 to 8 hours; the blood sugar then rises gradually, and by the 24th hour has usually returned to the pretest level. Orinase should not be used in patients with severe renal insufficiency.

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## Low Renin's Protective Role In Hypertension Unverified

Medical Tribune World Service

LOUVAIN, BELGIUM—The hypothesis that low renin activity protects hypertensive patients against stroke and heart attack is not supported in a retrospective study of 59 patients hospitalized and discharged with a final diagnosis of essential hypertension.

The patients were divided into three groups on the basis of plasma renin determinations by Drs. Roland Strooband, Robert Fagard, and Antoon K. P. C. Amery at the Hospital St. Rafael here.

There were 20 patients in the low renin group (concentrations below 7 units per ml.), 19 in the middle

group (7 to 13.9 units per ml.), and 20 in the high renin group (concentrations above 14).

The investigators found no significant differences among the three groups with respect to other known risk factors for cerebrovascular and coronary heart disease, including sex, age, family history, obesity, cigarette smoking, blood pressure, and plasma cholesterol and lipids. But unlike earlier investigators, they found no significant differences in incidence of stroke, heart-failure, and heart attack in relation to the different plasma renin levels.

In the high renin group, one patient had all three complications and two

had heart attacks; in the middle group, one patient had both heart-failure and heart attack and two had strokes; and in the low renin group, two had heart failure, one had stroke, and one had heart attack.

The investigators suggest that until large-scale prospective investigations are undertaken, therapeutic considerations derived from the existing data could be premature.

### Swiss Smoking Doubles

Medical Tribune World Service

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND—Cigarette consumption per capita has doubled in Switzerland during the past 10 years, according to statistics of the Anti-Alcoholic Association of Switzerland, and pulmonary cancer mortality has been climbing almost as fast.

## One Man & Medicine

Continued from preceding page in the finding of suicide." When the Young Lords, a militant Puerto Rican group, tried to distort his findings, Dr. Spain informed them: "In the future we will deal with each other on a day-to-day basis of mutual mistrust."

### "Madison Avenue Murders"

In his section on "Madison Avenue Murders," Spain reviews his participation in the studies and reports which indicted cigarettes in regard to lung cancer. It was a fight to which he is passionately dedicated. "It makes my hackles rise to hear patients say: 'My doctor is a regular guy; he lets me do anything I want.'" He attacks the A.M.A. for accepting a \$10,000,000 gift from the Tobacco Research Committee.

He also seeks to dispel two current myths. Advocates of the legalization of marijuana claim that the smoke of "grass" is not cancer producing. "To the contrary, recent studies indicate that smoking of five joints a day, with the holding of each puff in the lungs ten seconds, has the equivalent adverse effect on the lungs as smoking more than a pack of cigarettes. The other illusion is that a safe cigarette will soon appear on the market." This he does not foresee. "Approximately one million lung-cancer deaths have been reported in this country alone since the day I saw a case of lung cancer for the first time—over thirty years ago, at the Baltimore City Hospital."

### Dying From 'Cures'

David Spain writes: "Any rational individual will agree that, on the whole, modern medical practices have done vastly more good than harm. Nevertheless some patients do die from their cures. . . . I have written a textbook for the medical profession on this subject of doctor-induced diseases. . . . Ironically I found myself on the side of the defendant, the gigantic international XYZ Chemical Corporation." In this case, the claim was made that a drug was responsible for a particular pulmonary condition. "In reviewing the history of the case . . . I became convinced that [the] original physician was the real culprit. . . . I did not find the drug company derelict. . . . It was large, rich, and impersonal. It was logical to attack it . . . and despite evidence to the contrary and my expert testimony [the plaintiff's lawyer] won the case and received a substantial award for his client."

Post-Mortem takes you behind the headlines in the sensational trial of Alice Crimmins in New York, the deaths of three civil-rights workers in Mississippi, and the death of Fred Hampton, the Chicago Black Panther. Here is a pathologist whose reports on real life recall that of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Here is a man who calls himself a "civil-rights pathologist" but whose conscience dictates that when he steps through the door into the pathology laboratory and autopsy room he must tell it as he sees it under the microscope or on the autopsy table.

The Only Independent Weekly Medical Newspaper in the U.S.

## Medical Tribune

and Medical News

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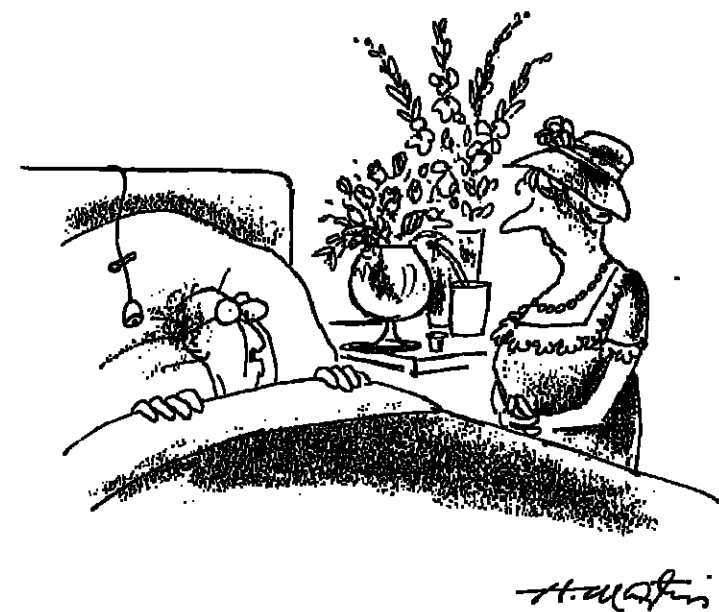
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"I haven't the slightest idea how I'm doing. The younger doctors tell me to 'hang in,' and the older doctors just say 'hang on.'" ©1974 Medical Tribune

## Transfer Factor

IT WAS IN 1942 that Landsteiner and Chase, with the use of peritoneal exudates, demonstrated the cellular transfer of delayed skin hypersensitivity from sensitized to unsensitized guinea pigs. Later work showed that cells from blood, spleen, and lymph nodes were equally effective. We now know that delayed hypersensitivity is part of the complex we call cellular immunity, for which the circulating, thymus-dependent, small lymphocytes—the T lymphocytes—are responsible. Humoral immunity, the development of antibodies, resides in the B lymphocytes, which mature under the influence of the bursa of Fabricius in chickens and an unidentified equivalent in man.

Dr. H. Sherwood Lawrence (see page 12) has intensely studied the Landsteiner-Chase phenomenon. He first showed in human beings the effectiveness of viable blood leukocytes in transferring delayed skin sensitivity to tuberculin and to streptococcal antigens. He then went on to demonstrate that extracts of human leukocytes were equally effective in transferring systemic states of delayed hypersensitivity. The extracts were prepared by freezing and thawing or by osmotic lysis. He has succeeded in clearly characterizing the transfer factor (TF) as a small polypeptide-polynucleotide

of less than 10,000 molecular weight.

This soluble, dialyzable, lyophilizable substance, which is not a protein, not an immunoglobulin, and not immunogenic, is immunologically specific, converting normal lymphocytes in vitro and in vivo into an antigen-responsive state so that in the presence of the antigen these converted lymphocytes proliferate into a clone of specifically reactive cells. Cellular immune deficiency diseases have been successfully treated with TF, as have such serious disseminated infections as vacinia, mucocutaneous candidiasis, coccidiomycosis, and lepromatous leprosy.

Of enormous interest today is the use of TF in the treatment of neoplastic diseases. Encouraging results have been secured in malignant melanoma, and in this issue of MEDICAL TRIBUNE there is a report (see page 1) of Dr. H. Hugh Fudenberg's work in using TF to treat osteosarcoma.

This remarkable substance may turn out to be extraordinarily effective in therapeutic medicine. It is now upwards of 30 years since the report by Landsteiner and Chase of an obscure, immunologic phenomenon they had observed in guinea pigs. Their work was basic science in animals. Dr. Lawrence's work was basic science in human beings. Such work is the prerequisite for practical application.

## Energy Crisis

THE MEANING of "It blows the wind that profits nobody" is that there is someone who profits from almost every disaster. And no matter what statements the oil companies make, their most recent earnings demonstrate they have amply profited from the energy crisis and from the Arab oil embargo.

Nonetheless, with the upsurge in fuel costs, it has become feasible to investigate substitutes for oil. For some time now, domestic wastes have been processed in a number of plants to yield shredded material for addition to coal-fired boilers to generate steam and power. In at least one such project, 10-25 per cent of coal fired has been replaced by waste.

A more ambitious project includes processing garbage, manure, and solid wastes into a slurry that is anaerobically digested to yield gaseous products—about half methane and half carbon dioxide. Pyrolysis of wastes at about 900° F. can yield about one barrel of oil per ton of wastes, plus gas and water. Suggestions have also been made to add ethyl alcohol—which can be readily produced—to gasoline in amounts of 5 to 30 per cent and increasing the octane number.

So the energy crisis may profit us all, ultimately, in various ecologic ways. What is to be feared is that changing from cheap energy to expensive energy will cost us dearly in such areas as education and research.

## Brevis oratio caelum penetrat

### Abortion, No-1

Your front-page article (January 23) crediting legalized abortion with producing "health advances" would appear to be nothing more than a bit of self-serving, pro-abortion propaganda. All of the statistics cited (i.e., the reporting, compiling, analysis, interpretation, etc., of said statistics) must be presumed to be in the hands of liberal abortion advocates. And one could hardly expect them to be searching very diligently for evidence that conflicts with their prejudices. For example, here in California, liberal abortion advocates have admitted (only under pressure, of course) that some legal abortion deaths are not reported as such.

Consequently, in the absence of exhaustive and reliable corroborative evidence which could conclusively contradict the above statements, any statistics or justification such as those you've presented deserve to be greeted by any true scientist with liberal amounts of healthy skepticism.

In a similar vein, your "report" on page 35 would have done greater service to your credibility if it had been placed on the editorial page.

JAMES H. FORD, M.D.  
Member  
Committee for the Continuing  
Study of Evolving Trends  
in Society Affecting Life  
California Medical Association  
Lynwood, Calif.

### Abortion, No-2

It was a sad day for our country and our profession when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of legalizing abortion. This was the day our great country and our profession lost respect for human life.

During this past year some 800,000 lives were brutally ended by abortion, and your staff writer Margery Barnett has the audacity to state that since the Supreme Court decision "the neonatal death rate dropped an astonishing 5 per cent below the first eight months of

1972." To me such a statement should not go unchallenged and unanswered. There are times in medicine when one cannot completely separate medical and moral aspects of a situation. It is my opinion that there is absolutely no conflict between good morality and good medicine. When something is immoral, it almost invariably is bad medicine. Abortion is such an issue. I feel that our profession is playing a prominent role in the moral decline of our country.

I hope that the lessons we in this country must learn will not be too bitter before we change our attitude toward abortion.

JOSEPH W. KOLP, M.D.  
Canton, Ohio

Editor's note: Our reporter's "audacity" was derived from the National Center for Health Statistics. They of the center drew the graph, not she.

### Abortion, Yes

Your recent front-page article on abortion leaves me utterly confused and depressed. It is inconceivable to me how these vociferous antilaboration forces intend society to deal with the most significant problem of all mankind—overpopulation.

What does our society need with the 400,000 (potential) human beings that Dr. Michael F. Dolan (February 6, page 13) says have been "killed" in New York City alone between 1970 and 1972?

We are finally having to face the rather stark reality that our finite earth cannot supply the energy, the natural resources, to sustain unlimited population. When and if ignorance and apathy prevail and/or contraceptive measures fail, it seems to me that abortion must become more essential every day.

I feel that abortion should be made mandatory in certain instances, and that previously assumed inalienable right to bear children must be challenged when it conflicts with the best interests of society. If there is to be any kind of a meaningful future for

Continued on page 29

## When diet alone is insufficient in nonketotic maturity-onset diabetes

0.5 Gm tablets  
**ORINASE®**  
tolbutamide, Upjohn

For gradual blood-sugar lowering action with maximal response in 5 to 8 hours

An orally active hypoglycemic agent principally indicated in relatively mild, adult, maturity-onset, nonketotic diabetes; also, as a supplement to insulin therapy in selected diabetic patients. It may effect a stabilization of labile diabetes and reduce insulin requirement. Certain patients intolerant to chlorpropamide therapy at usual therapeutic doses have subsequently been successfully managed with Orinase (tolbutamide).

Use in mild asymptomatic diabetic patients with abnormal glucose tolerance tests not responding to diet therapy may result in improvement of the glucose tolerance test.

Use in conjunction with phenformin is indicated when optimal control is not obtained with Orinase or phenformin alone. Contraindications: Orinase alone is not effective in juvenile or growth-onset diabetes nor in unstable brittle diabetes where insulin therapy is required.

Orinase should not be used: when diabetes is complicated by acidosis, ketosis, or coma, or when a history of repeated bouts of acidosis or coma is obtained; in the presence of other acute complications such as fever, severe trauma, or infections; and in patients with severe renal insufficiency. Insulin is indicated in these circumstances.

Pregnancy warning: The safety and usefulness of Orinase during pregnancy has not been established either from the standpoint of the mother or the fetus. Animal studies have demonstrated fetotoxic and teratogenic effects of doses of 1,000-2,500 mg/kg/day, but application to human subjects is unknown. Therefore, Orinase is not recommended for the pregnant diabetic, and when administering Orinase to women of childbearing age, these facts should be borne in mind.

Precautions: Diagnostic and therapeutic measures necessary for optimal control with insulin are also necessary with Orinase. The patient on Orinase must be fully instructed: about the nature of his disease; how to prevent and detect complications; how to control his condition; not to neglect dietary restrictions; develop a careful attitude or disregard instructions relative to body weight, exercise, personal hygiene, and avoidance of infection; how to recognize and counteract impending hypoglycemia; how and when to test for glycosuria and ketonuria; how to use insulin; and to report to the physician immediately if he does not feel as well as usual.

Caution, very close observation, and careful adjustment of dose are necessary when: insulin is withdrawn during the trial period in order to avoid ketosis, acidosis, and coma; thiazide diuretics are administered which may result in aggravation of diabetic state and increased tolbutamide requirement, temporary loss of control, or even secondary failure; treating patients with impaired hepatic and/or renal function and debilitated, malnourished, or semistarved patients in order to avoid severe hypoglycemia which may require corrective therapy over several days; and treating patients with severe trauma, infection, or surgical procedures where temporary return to insulin or addition of insulin may be necessary. Response to tolbutamide is diminished in patients receiving therapy with beta-blocking agents.

As some diabetics are not suitable candidates, it is essential that the physician familiarize himself with the indications, limits of application, and selection of patients for therapy.

Patients must be under continuous medical supervision, and during the initial test period should communicate with the physician daily, and during the first month report at least once

weekly for physical examination and definitive evaluation. After a month, examinations are recommended monthly or as indicated. Appearance of ketonuria, increase in glycosuria, unsatisfactory lowering or persistent elevation of blood sugar, or failure to obtain and hold clinical improvement indicate non-responsiveness to Orinase (tolbutamide). Orinase does not obviate need for maintaining standard diet regulation. Uncooperative patients should be considered unsuitable for therapy. Prescriptions should be refilled only on specific instruction of physician. In treating mild asymptomatic diabetic patients with abnormal glucose tolerance, glucose tolerance tests should be obtained at three to six-month intervals. Orinase is not an oral insulin or a substitute for insulin and must not be used as sole therapy in juvenile diabetes or in diabetes complicated by acidosis or coma where insulin is indispensable.

If phenformin is prescribed in combination with Orinase, appropriate package literature should be consulted. Adverse reactions: Severe hypoglycemia, though uncommon, may occur and may mimic acute neurologic disorders such as cerebral thrombosis. Certain factors such as hepatic and renal disease, malnutrition, advanced age, alcohol ingestion, and adrenal and pituitary insufficiency may predispose to hypoglycemia and certain drugs such as insulin, phenformin, sulfonamides, oxyphenbutazone, salicylates, probenecid, monamine oxidase inhibitors, phenylbutazone, bishydroxycoumarin, and phenylhydrazine may prolong or enhance the action of Orinase and increase risk of hypoglycemia. Orinase long-term therapy has been reported to cause reduction in RAI uptake without producing clinical hypothyroidism or thyroid enlargement and at high doses is mildly goitrogenic in animals. Photosensitivity reactions, disulfiram-like reactions after alcohol ingestion, and false-positive tests for urine albumin have been reported.

Although usually not serious, gastrointestinal disturbances (nausea, epigastric fullness, and heartburn) and headache appear to be dose related and frequently disappear with reduction of dose or administration with meals. Allergic skin reactions (pruritus, erythema, urticaria, and morbilliform or maculopapular eruptions) are transient, usually not serious, and frequently disappear with continued administration. Orinase should be discontinued if skin reactions persist. Recent reports indicate that long-term use of Orinase has no appreciable effect on body weight.

Orinase appears to be remarkably free from gross clinical toxicity; crystalluria or other renal abnormalities have not been observed; incidence of liver dysfunction is remarkably low and jaundice has been rare and cleared readily on discontinuation of drug (carcinoma of the pancreas or other biliary obstruction should be ruled out in persistent jaundice); leukopenia; agranulocytosis; thrombocytopenia; hemolytic anemia; aplastic anemia; pancytopenia; and hepatic porphyria and porphyria cutanea tarda have been reported.

How supplied: 0.5 Gm Tablets—bottles of 50, 200, 500 and 1000 and cartons of 100 foil strips.

For additional product information, see your Upjohn representative or consult the package insert.

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J-3699-6 MED 8-66

## Severe Pain of MS Is Eased By Dorsal Column Stimulator

Continued from page 1  
marked increase in the frequency and amplitude of reaction in the muscles of her legs.

Before DCS, she had intention tremor, dysmetria, and dysidiadochokinesis in both arms. "It was hard for her to sit up in bed and she had a tendency to fall when standing," Dr. Cook said. "After DCS, ataxia disappeared." He also observed that such indications of brain-stem disturbances as moderate dysarthria, scanning speech, and deep, rasping voice also disappeared. Finally, a number of parameters of sensory dysfunction also returned to normal with DCS, except for plantar hyperalgesia, which persisted.

### Used In Several Institutions

DCS is being used at several U.S. institutions as a nondestructive surgical method of treating severe, intractable pain. Dr. Charles Burton, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery, Temple University Health Sciences Center, Philadelphia, who has been working with electrical stimulation of nervous tissue—or neuromodulation—for pain reduction, told MEDICAL TRIBUNE: "To my knowledge, Dr. Cook is the first person to have used DCS for multiple sclerosis. If he continues to achieve consistent improvement in MS patients, it could have very important implications, not only for MS but for the whole new area of neuromodulation in living systems."

Originally, Dr. Cook implanted four platinum-electronic contacts in the subdural, extra-arachnoid space over the center of the upper thoracic spinal cord. A radiofrequency current energizes the bipolar electrodes, and an external transmitter delivers the current to a subcutaneous radio receiver. The voltage and frequency of a miniaturized, battery-powered transmitter are regulated by the patient, according to functional response. In his later implantations, Dr. Cook has placed the DCS within the layers of the dura to avoid heavy scar tissue formation.

### Stimulation Begins In 10 Days

About 10 days after implantation, stimulation begins, along with appropriate physical therapy. Results are evaluated by neurologic examination, electromyography, cystometrograms, thermography, and before-and-after motion-picture studies.

The New York neurosurgeon tests MS candidates for implantation by their response to percutaneous electrical stimulation. If there is no response, the likelihood is that there will be no response to permanent DCS.

"If there is movement or some residual function in the legs, it indicates that some nervous tissue is left alive. The hope is that there may also be intact neural structure that can be brought up to the impulse propagation level to overcome the conduction defect. We must see paresthesias in the legs. We've seen patients who are not paralyzed and seem to have good function, but if we can't induce paresthesias, they probably won't be helped by implantation. We also look for an in-

crease in lower-leg temperature, activation of the electromyogram in both lower and upper extremities, and some increased movement ability. If percutaneous stimulation does not accomplish at least that much, then we can be pretty sure that DCS won't do anything."

Dr. Cook said that he would not implant a DCS in a very young patient who has a chance of total remission—or in the very old with far advanced disease, because stimulation has little effect on severe MS in the aged. Generally, he feels that "the more severe the disease, the less effect we can expect from DCS. If the nerve tissue is already functionally dead, stimulation will not activate propagation of impulses."

For diagnosis and determination of disease stage, Dr. Cook uses the Kurtzke scale: grade 1 is an absence of disability; grade 9 is total disability. "If we have a patient at grade 7, we may be able to improve function to grade 5 with a DCS, but the disease progresses in its usual manner; with stimulation he may deteriorate to grade 6, but when we turn the stimulator off, he goes down to grade 9. In other words, DCS can hold the functional disability below the expected disability."

### Now In Her Third Year

DCS pulled Mrs. R.—a grade 7 patient—to functional grade 5. She is now in her third year of stimulation and has had the expected progression of MS. Even with DCS, she is now at a lower level of function than three years ago; but when stimulation is withdrawn she declines even further and becomes completely bedridden.

Dr. Cook cited a grade 9 patient, paralyzed and bedridden and com-

## Baboons Raise Own Blood Pressure, Heart Rate



Photo Courtesy the Baltimore Sunpapers

Tests with eight baboons showed that they were able to raise their blood pressure and heart rate in response to food or electric shock, Dr. Alan Harris, of Johns Hopkins University, recently told an American Heart Association Seminar.

pletely unable to care for herself. She had severe ataxia and violent static and kinetic tremor. Arms flailing, she had beaten herself black and blue. Her speech could not be understood.

"With DCS, she is quiet while resting, and without the violent flailing. She has a reduced amount of kinetic tremor; she can get food to her mouth, use the telephone, and speak intelligibly. Although she can't really care for herself, she has come back to some interrelationship with the world."

A major problem with DCS for MS, he pointed out, "is that the frequency and amplitude of stimulation is so delicate that we spend a great deal of time on the telephone each day adjusting the stimulator levels for our patients; these levels may vary, in some cases, from day to day."

Dr. Cook has extended his work with DCS to such motor neuron dis-

eases as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. In one patient "there was an astonishing level of increased functional capacity."

### Similar Improvements Seen

In other patients with similar problems, similar improvements have been seen, but much depends on the functional state of the anterior horn cells.

"This has significant impact when one realizes that nobody has ever been able to do anything for motor neuron diseases with progressive muscle atrophy."

He is also considering DCS implantation for severe paresis caused by traumatic spinal cord injury. "Based on testing with percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation in a patient with severe spinal cord dysfunction as a result of a skiing accident, we feel there may be some beneficial effect. It's worth a try."

## Real Work on Transfer Factor 'Just Begun'

Medical Tribune Report

NEW YORK—The New York University immunologist who discovered transfer factor nearly two decades ago summed up here the now-extensive evidence of its potency "as a restorative of cellular immunity" and received the kind of applause rarely heard at scientific meetings.

But Dr. H. Sherwood Lawrence also emphasized in discussions at the ninth Gustav Stern Symposium on Perspectives in Virology that there are still major gaps in knowledge about transfer factor.

No one is yet sure what it is or how it does what it does, he said. "The real work on transfer factor has just begun." Dr. Lawrence defines the substance as a small nonantigenic moiety (molecular weight less than 10,000) that is separated from other macromolecules in human blood leukocytes by dialysis and concentrated by lyophilization of the dialysate. The safety margin is high, and comparatively large doses produce no significant side effects.

Studies have demonstrated that dialyzable transfer factor possesses all of the immunologic properties of the viable leukocytes from which it is prepared,

he reported. It confers on the recipient for one to two years the delayed hypersensitivity responses and the cellular immunities possessed by the donor—or, in another descriptive phrase used by Dr. Lawrence, "memories of experience are conferred on the recipient."

Dr. Lawrence believes that transfer factor induces a new clone of T cells in the recipient. These antigen-responsive lymphocytes will then, by a mechanism still not understood, express all of the immunologic capacities of the

naturally sensitive cell when they are exposed to the appropriate antigen.

Discussing transfer therapy of congenital and acquired cellular immune deficiency disease, Dr. Lawrence said that encouraging results are being achieved in the treatment of Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome, Swiss-type agammaglobulinemia, dysgammaglobulinemia, and some cases of disseminated infection, such as disseminated vaccinia, mucocutaneous candidiasis, coccidioidomycosis, and lepromatous leprosy.

## Waste-Water Reuse Is Said to Pose Health Risk From Disease Organisms

Medical Tribune World Service

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND—The lower Rhine, water source for nearly 6,000,000 persons, often contains 40 per cent sewage and at low flow close to 100 per cent. Water from the Thames, which supplies two-thirds of Greater London, is contaminated with about 14 per cent sewage on average. In times of drought the only available water for the town of Agra, India, consists almost entirely of partially treated sewage from New Delhi.

These are some of the facts cited in a World Health Organization publication on methods of waste-water treatment and reuse. As the report noted, the use of sewage-polluted water for domestic purposes poses a serious health risk since such water contains all the disease organisms found in the source community.

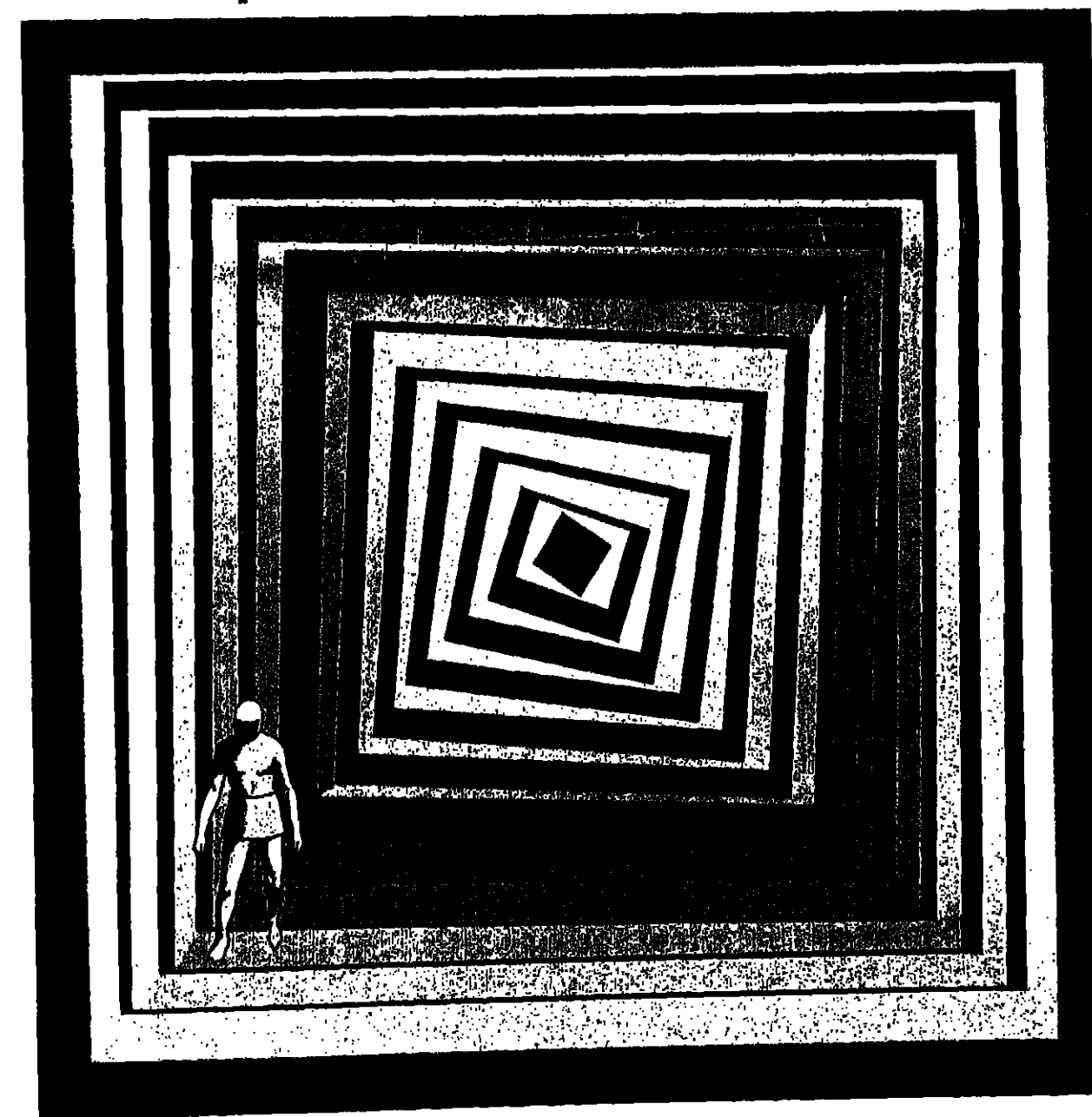
The hazards of water pollution are magnified in industrial areas, where each year new organic chemicals find their way into rivers and lakes.

# This Question of COPING

March 13, 1974  
Medical Tribune  
13

## 4. Anxiety and Coping Behavior

Anxiety is a difficult and distressing experience. But it is also a special opportunity for new learning and personal development.





## Anxiety and Coping Behavior

Fourth in a series which includes such topics as:  
Competent Coping; Development of Coping Behavior;  
Coping with the Changes of Adolescence; Coping with Cancer;  
and Coping with Cardiovascular Disease.

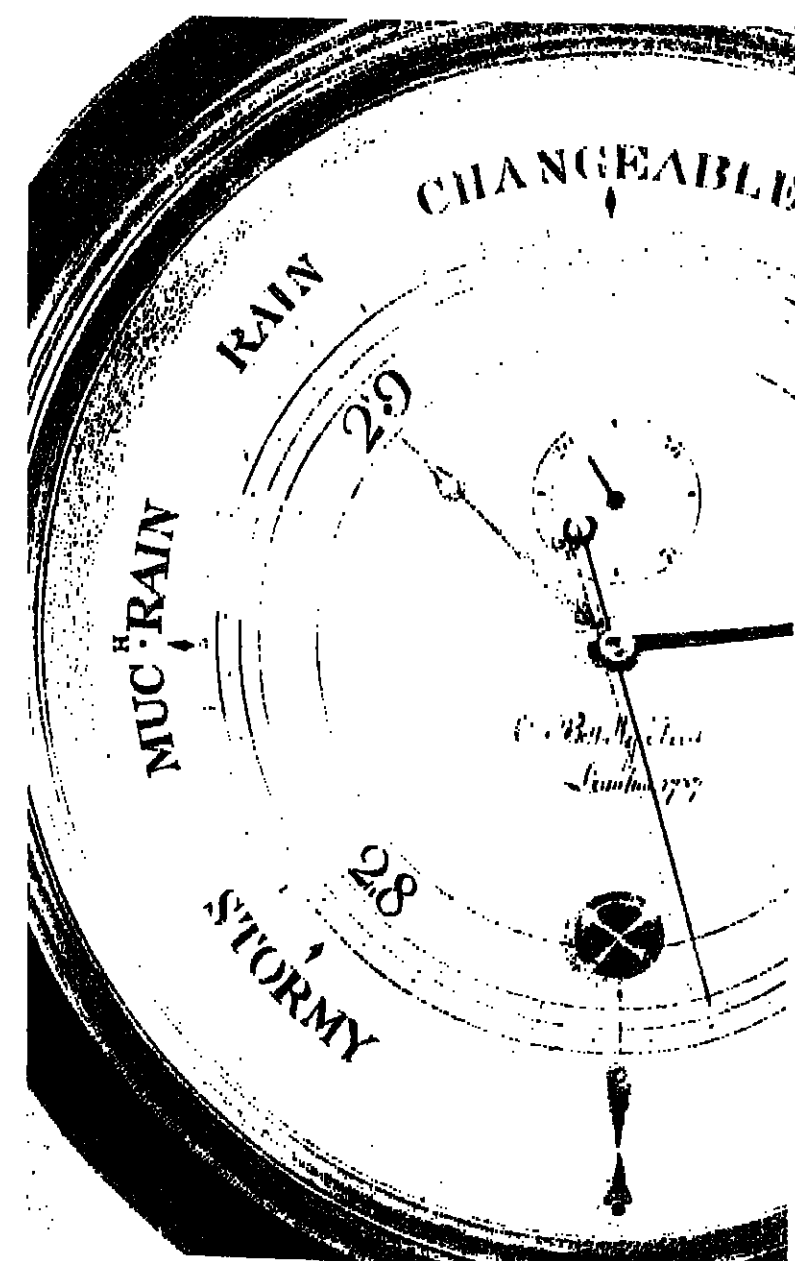
Anxiety—painful and unpleasant as it is—  
is a universal experience.  
How each person copes with it is a measure  
of that individual's mental health.

As a response to stress,<sup>1</sup> anxiety is a key ingredient in the coping process: it alerts a person to impending danger and maintains all the potential resources of the body and mind in readiness for emergencies. This normal alerting and facilitating anxiety puts us on guard against present and future disturbances so that we will not be overwhelmed by sudden excessive stimulations, or helpless in sudden critical situations.

Coping with anxiety is much like reading a barometer: there is very little we can do about changing the weather, but we can prudently observe the warning signals and protect ourselves from its extremes. On the other hand, we can ignore all warnings and attempt to ride out the storm—perhaps getting tossed or literally "wiped out."

How each person reacts to anxiety is as different as how each person perceives it. Fifty normal men and women were asked to relate how they felt about anxiety.<sup>2</sup> Their answers ranged broadly: "There is a sense of uncertainty about the future," "I have no appetite," "I try to stop thinking of the situation and try to think of other things," "There's a tension across my back," "I have a gnawing feeling in the pit of my stomach." No matter how anxiety is defined, each of us has two alternatives: to cope with anxiety and accept it as a signal—"I am feeling anxious now"; or to become overwhelmed and helpless in the face of mass stimulation—"I always feel anxious."

It is not the capacity to experience anxiety but what we get anxious about that determines whether or not anxiety is "normal." Furthermore, anxiety as perceived is relative in intensity, depending on how each of us has been shaped to adapt to stresses of life in the past—what has gone on, how we have reacted. In essence, anxiety is the consequence of each individual's peculiarly personal perceptions of the environment and of each person's internalized psychological processes.



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# ROCHE

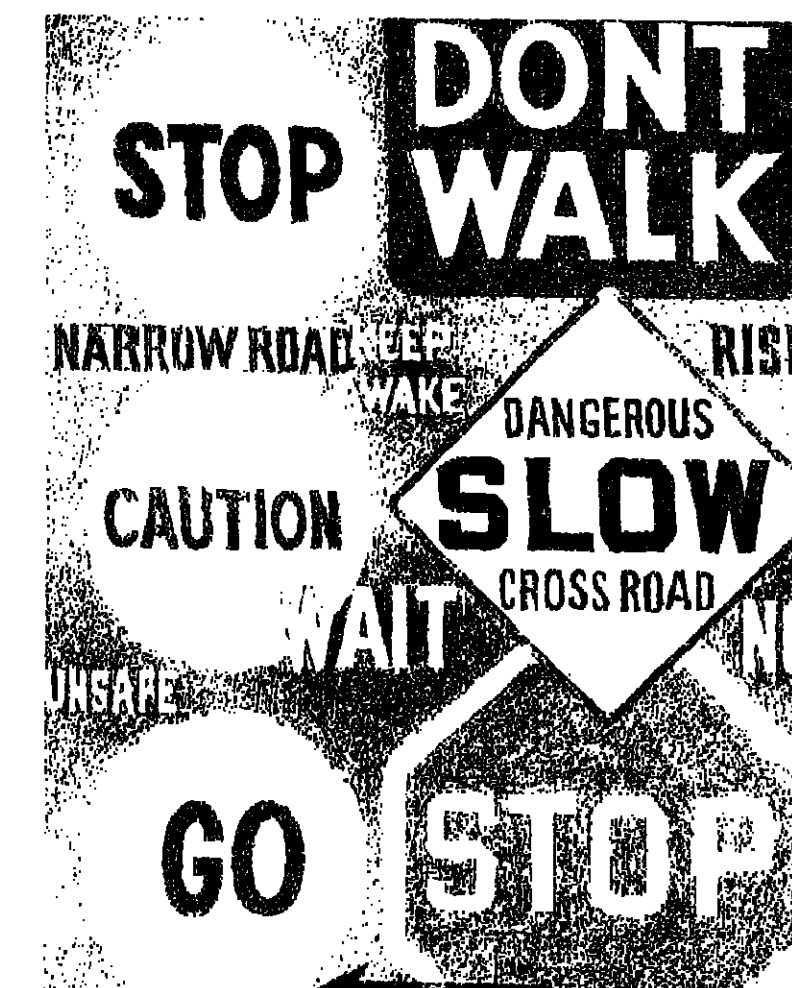
Anxiety in everyday life. The sources of anxiety—both internal and external—are increasing in our society, which for more than 25 years has been dubbed "The Age of Anxiety."

A common internal source develops when a person is confronted with two or more attitudes or drives which seem to be in opposition to each other, and between which easy choice seems impossible.<sup>3</sup> Another internal source of anxiety stems from feeling incapable of living up to the ideals set in early childhood by parents; still another, from anticipating that our actions will be opposed by someone personally significant. Basically, these are conflicts between internalized instructions and current motivations. They result in a nameless dread and foreboding, so characteristic of anxiety.

It is in our daily routine that we commonly find external sources of anxiety.<sup>4</sup> Examinations and other tests are a frequent focus of anxiety in young people who are particularly exposed to them—but rarely does the anxiety become so intense as to disrupt performance. Anxiety about dental treatment is widespread but short-lived, dropping off sharply after treatment. Stage fright too is a source of anxiety, occurring not only among actors but also in anybody who has to perform some action in public, at school or at work. Even experienced politicians confess to nervousness before making important public speeches—a nervousness which usually makes them more alert, goading them on to perform better.

These external sources of anxiety can be very useful; often without them we could not cope with the rapid changes in our everyday lives. We could not, for example, do something as relatively simple as crossing the street safely without being apprehensive and alert to the possible dangers of oncoming cars. Or, take a more stressful situation: in a group of serial combatmen surveyed, 50% reported that mild fear had a beneficial effect on their performance, and as much as 37% thought they performed their duties better even though they were very anxious.<sup>4</sup>

Yet, the difference between being anxious and too anxious is a thin line: while many in the anxious group performed better, too



much anxiety in trainees and even in trained paratroopers was correlated with poor performance. Among the many normal situations in life—a promotion at work which means more pressure to perform well, the birth of a child which means new responsibilities—some events can raise the anxiety of an already anxious person beyond the point of tolerance. This is when anxiety can jeopardize the coping process.

Studies show that anxiety follows a course parallel to that of societal pressures which are imposed on individuals in an age-linked sequence.<sup>5</sup> Anxiety is seen early in infancy: there has been speculation that its precursors may first occur during the events of birth—which impose severe and difficult stimulations on the infant. Infants early develop the startle response—catching their breath, clutching with their hands, closing their eyes, puckering their lips and then crying—their way of coping with danger and anxiety.<sup>6</sup> This startle response is pre-emotional, but protective.<sup>7</sup> It is

## This Question of COPING

the precursor of emotional reactions which become anxiety and fear. (Adults, too, have startle reactions: a pistol shot goes off unexpectedly, the body contracts, head jerks forward, eyes blink, shoulders draw forward. As in a reflex, we startle before we know what threatens us.)

Childhood anxieties are commonplace: in a group of 482 children, 40% reported that they had seven or more specific fears.<sup>8</sup> Yet children learn very early in life that reduction of anxieties is accomplished very largely by the people who take care of them. Even the infant learns to respond to absence or inattention on the part of these people as signs of danger, while their presence or attention takes on the power to reduce anxiety. A child's behavior is shaped at least in some degree to meet parental and cultural expectations; in turn, meeting these expectations gives the child a sense of security and reduces anxieties.

**Proneness to anxiety is based on a person's preceding experiences. What may be a harmless situation for one can be a highly anxious one for another because of the complex ways in which, according to past experiences, the individual interprets the situation or transfers past emotions to it.** A minor argument during a bridge game, for instance, may set off profound anxiety in one player because any suggestion of competition triggers associations connected with early competition with his sisters—a situation which was a great threat to his close dependency on his mother. The other bridge players would probably resolve the game-related conflict and resume playing, without anxiety.

No matter what the source of the anxiety, each of us has a particular way of feeling anxious—a way which is specific to the individual.<sup>9</sup> For some it is a lump in the throat, for others it is a headache, a sinking abdominal sensation, "butterflies in the stomach."

**There are two basic kinds of physiological manifestations of anxiety:<sup>10</sup> those which a person can perceive, and those which the person cannot.**

At the conscious level, the reactions most commonly perceived are shortness of breath and rapid beating of the heart. There is also a dryness of the mouth, tightness in the throat, loss of appetite, insomnia.

Other responses to anxiety, not subjectively perceptible, are brought about through the action of the autonomic nervous system. This is nature's way of enabling the body to mobilize itself to deal more effectively with threatened danger, either by fleeing from it or by fighting against it. Every system of the body is involved to some degree in this emergency mobilization. Some of the most outstanding of these responses are the outpouring of adrenal hormones, which in turn cause the liver to release glucose into the bloodstream so that the muscles will then have the glucose available for quick energy. The heart beats faster and blood pressure rises, thus pumping the blood with its oxygen, glucose and other nutrient supplies more quickly to the muscles and to the nervous system. At the same time, processes in the body that are not immediately useful for fight or flight—such as digestion or sexual desire—are likely to be slowed or inhibited. These reactions are not subject to conscious control; they happen automatically in anxiety states.

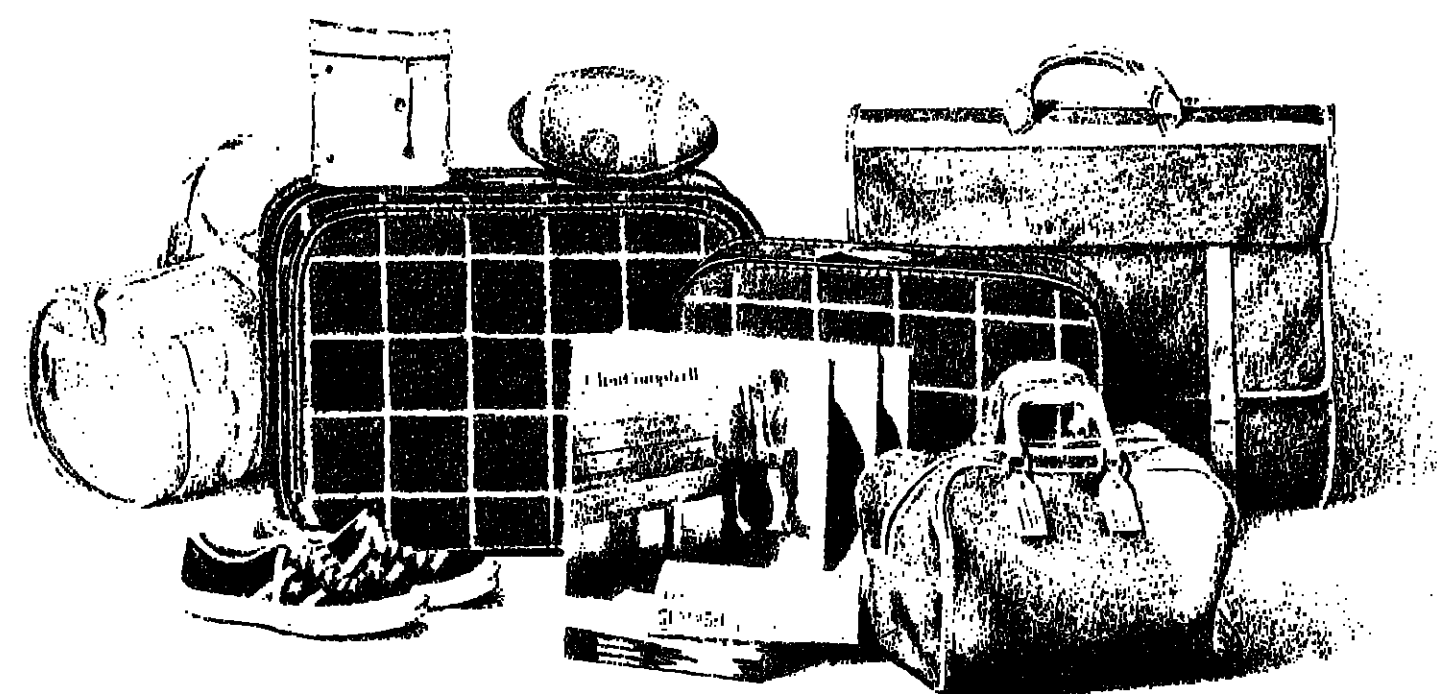
Another set of chronic physiological reactions set off by anxiety falls into the psychosomatic category: anxiety can provoke cardiovascular responses such as palpitations, can produce partial deafness (to drown out the world), chronic headaches and a whole host of ailments. Often these manifestations are called upon to replace unsuccessful psychological maneuvers.<sup>11</sup> Whether these physiological responses are part of the normal fight or flight preparedness or psychosomatically induced, researchers have clearly shown that each step down the ladder of self-esteem produces a larger proportion of physiological symptoms.<sup>12</sup>

**The role of self-esteem. There is an obvious and inverse relation between the sense of competence and anxiety.**

Stressful situations can be dealt with when they do not need to be feared; they cannot be handled competently through hesitant approaches, avoidance, feelings of awkward helplessness and lack of self-respect, all evidence of failure to deal with anxiety.<sup>13</sup> Maintaining and, if possible, enhancing our level of self-esteem is an essential element of competent coping.

By moving through anxiety-creating experiences, we achieve more self-awareness and individual freedom. The developing

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child, for example, experiences a progressive need to break the primary ties of dependence on parents—a break which always involves some anxiety. The healthy child overcomes this anxiety by a larger degree of self-direction and autonomy. But if independence from parents brings about an insupportable degree of anxiety—if the price of increased feelings of helplessness and isolation is too great—the child retreats into new forms of dependency. Anxiety, then, can constructively help raise the level of self-esteem, or it can destructively lead to self-derogation and a constriction of self.

**It has long been believed that anxiety generates low self-esteem:** it sets in motion a complex chain of psychological events which produces among other consequences self-hatred and self-contempt—neither of which fosters competent coping behavior. **Researchers now report that the opposite sequence may also occur: low self-esteem may generate anxiety.<sup>14</sup>** The association between anxiety and self-esteem was investigated in more than 5000 high school juniors and seniors in a random sample of 10 high schools in New York State. It was found that the low self-esteem persons had a shifting and unstable self-picture, and that they presented a false picture of themselves to the world. This is a very anxiety-producing situation: a person is always under the strain and fear of letting the guise slip. The low self-esteem group tended to be very sensitive to criticism, which they viewed as a threat testifying to their inadequacy, incompetence or worthlessness. Conversely, the high self-esteem highschoolers had fewer anxiety symptoms: they had stable and good self-images, they presented their true selves to the world and they felt less threatened by criticism.

The association between self-esteem and anxiety becomes cyclical: chronically anxious persons generally expect bad events to occur in situations involving potential threats to self-esteem. The extent to which a situation becomes threatening to self-esteem

depends on our individual conceptions of our resources for mitigating or preventing harm—how much power we have over the threat—as opposed to helplessness in face of it.

**An optimal range of anxiety. To facilitate action, we need to have a certain degree of anxiety.**

Just how much anxiety we require varies with each of us, depending on our constitutional make-up, on our early environmental background, and on how we have learned to cope. What happens is that as anxiety increases responses are intensified to reduce that anxiety; but a point is eventually reached beyond which further increases in anxiety are associated with decreases in the anxiety-reducing responses. This is represented by the classic inverted U-shaped curve which relates drive (anxiety) to performance: for each task there is an anxiety level, both above and below which performance falls off.<sup>15</sup> For easy tasks, the optimum level is generally high; for difficult tasks it is low. However, we may be so anxious that we can only perform tasks which are very easy.

At the optimum level of anxiety for each individual, there is increased vigilance, increased sensitization to outside events and increased ability to cope with danger; this sensitivity continues at higher levels of anxiety, but the ability to differentiate the dangerous from the trivial becomes reduced. Also as anxiety mounts, we become less capable of mastering it; our behavior loses its spontaneity and flexibility, there is a general rigidification, and we respond in terms of the more habitual and hence safer tendencies. Anything novel is threatening and the ability to improvise is reduced: coping behavior is stymied.



# This Question of COPING

## Many aspects of anxiety can aid in the development of competent coping behavior.

### Anxiety as a warning system.

What the normal or the "right" amount of anxiety does is make us aware of threats: it is an expression of self-preservation, a real and valid reaction to real danger. It is this alertness, this apprehension that keeps us keyed up psychologically. Without this our performance is often less efficient.<sup>14</sup> In the vernacular of the theater, we may "lay an egg." Indeed, psychoanalytic theory considers one type of anxiety to be "signal" anxiety because it functions as a warning, encouraging tentative preparation for mobilization of defenses against the breakthrough of overpowering, unacceptable or conflicting impulses. This signal anxiety is related to ego strength in that psychological conditioning in early life prepares us for adequate coping with a changing environment.

There are many aspects of anxiety that can aid in the development of competent coping behavior. Anxiety is adaptive, for example, in that it helps us cope by narrowing and focusing our field of attention, heightening our responsiveness to significant cues, reducing our responsiveness to more incidental cues.<sup>17</sup> Almost every step of growth and independence contains the seed of anxiety. Consider the classic case of going away to college. One such college-bound 18-year-old who was interviewed was obviously very anxious.<sup>18</sup> This was the first time she had ever been away from her family. As she spoke of leaving home, she revealed both her feelings of anxiety and her determination to become independent. She described how she had always been overprotected by her mother and three older brothers and said that, although it was hard for her to do it, she had decided it would be best for her to go to college in a distant city. She would have been relatively free of anxiety had she decided to remain at home; but she was not going to let a little anxiety stop her from developing into an independent young woman. Others, afraid of the anxiety of separation, might have remained at home, psychologically tied to mother and hearth forever.

Anxiety can also produce emotional inoculation—so called because it is somewhat analogous to what happens when antibodies are induced by exposure to mildly infectious viruses. Exposing a person to mild anxiety situations enables "normals" to increase tolerance for stress by developing coping mechanisms and effective defenses. Take the case of a group of 26 women smokers who were exposed to alarming information about the dangers of smoking.<sup>19</sup> In a psychodrama situation, an investigator played the role of a physician; each subject played a part of a patient suffering from the consequences of smoking. In one instance, the physician

pointed out the x-ray indications of a malignant mass in the patient's lung, as he gave her the bad news that diagnostic tests indicated the presence of lung cancer. A controlled group was exposed to the same information, but instead of participating in the role playing, they listened to a tape recording of the session. In a follow-up study 18 months later, the psychodrama "patients" reported a significantly greater decrease in the number of cigarettes smoked than did the young women in the control group. Concludes the researcher: Under appropriate conditions, an anxiety experience may develop into a more adaptive attitude—an attitude that combines vigilance with high receptivity to precautionary recommendations.

### Anxiety as a detriment. When signal anxiety fails to stimulate coping behavior, the overwhelming intensity of anxiety drives cannot be checked. This, according to psychoanalytic theory, results in or is described as traumatic anxiety,<sup>16</sup> or neurotic anxiety.<sup>20</sup>

Essentially, this kind of anxiety is a reaction to a threat which is disproportionate to the objective danger; it is managed by means of various repressions, defenses and retrenchment of activity and awareness.

Traumatic or neurotic anxiety occurs when the incapacity for coping adequately with threats is not objective, but subjective—that is, is due not to objective weakness but to inner psychological patterns and conflicts which prevent the individual from using powers to cope.<sup>20</sup> These patterns are derived in part from situations of early childhood, when the child was not able objec-

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tively to meet the problems of a threatening situation, and at the same time could not consciously admit the source of the threat. Take the hypothetical case of a child on his first day of school. Billy, a 6-year-old kindergartener, has trepidations and conflicts about going to school. While he is eager for the new experience, he is also reluctant to leave his mother, or to free her to devote more attention to his baby brother. He expresses his anxiety through a mild sense of nausea, abdominal discomfort and a generally queasy feeling. He vomits in school, is sent to the nurse who comforts him. His mother is called to school; she too comforts and reassures him, gives him a new toy, ice cream and special attention. Billy has learned a way of dealing with his anxiety. If he repeats this expression of anxiety in a way that permits him to avoid school or other activities beyond the family, he creates a serious problem for his life-long style of dealing with anxieties: he establishes a pattern of getting sick as a way out of an intolerable anxiety-producing conflict.

Anxiety can also play a negative role in coping behavior when it interferes with thought processes. Some common complaints of anxiousness include: "I find it hard to keep my mind on a single task or job"; "I feel anxious about something or someone all of the time"; "At times I have been worried beyond reason about something that really did not matter." These statements all reflect intellectual and emotional preoccupation, an interference with concentration—and roadblocks to effective problem-solving.<sup>21</sup> When we are subjected to deep anxiety, we may begin to doubt our ability to perform even the most simple function. For example, two groups, in psychological testing, were asked to judge the length of certain lines.<sup>22</sup> The actual discrimination required was not difficult. However, the high-anxiety group showed many more doubtful judgments on lengths of lines, tending to be somewhat more hesitant and not trusting their own visual ability. In contrast, the non-anxious group scored significantly fewer doubtful responses.

High anxiety levels tend to impair academic achievement. In a test anxiety (TA) questionnaire administered to 305 Yale University liberal arts undergraduates, it was found that high aptitude students did well no matter what their anxiety levels were, and that low aptitude students, predictably, did poorly.<sup>23</sup> For the large middle intelligence group, academic achievement was impaired by high anxiety. The higher the anxiety score, the worse the student's performance. However, this effect tended to diminish the longer the student remained at Yale, suggesting that the student had learned to cope better with examinations generally.

### Adaptation and maladaptation to anxiety situations. Too little as well as too much anxiety can hinder effective action, while a moderate amount of anxiety can foster competent coping behavior. Given the very same anxiety-producing situation, one person may cope competently while another may collapse.

Here are a few cases in which similar stress situations produced vastly different coping responses.

**Surgical patients.** A group of hospitalized men and women from the surgical floor were interviewed before and after their operations, to evaluate the impact of anxiety on surgical experiences.<sup>24</sup> Researchers found that the patients with low anticipatory anxiety—those who displayed no perceptible signs of fear or



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emotional disturbance during the period when they knew that they were scheduled to have an operation—often reacted with angry resentment combined with varying degrees of anxiety and depression postoperatively. Mr. R., a 33-year-old mechanic, hospitalized for a colostomy, asserted that he felt no concern about any aspect of his impending surgery. "I don't worry about it—I don't think about it at all. I figure it's not a serious operation." Following his operation, he displayed characteristic resentment. He had expected that after the operation he would have no pain at all, but to his dismay waking from the anesthetic was unexpectedly a disturbing and somewhat painful experience. His denial of the situation had tended to convince him that he would remain wholly unaffected by the surgical experience; instead, he was rudely subjected to the real pains and other stresses of the postoperative period.

Patients highly anxious preoperatively—those who report feeling continuously jittery and nervous about the impending operation, who have difficulty sleeping, difficulty concentrating on normal activities—continue to display a relatively high level of anxiety postoperatively. Mr. L., a 43-year-old salesman, was extremely fearful and agitated while in the hospital awaiting his abdominal operation, a cholecystectomy. Earlier, against the advice of his physician, he had postponed coming to the hospital. Throughout the entire convalescent period he felt continually worried about his physical condition and he displayed an unusually low ability to tolerate pain or discomfort. Like others with high fears before operations, he felt generally apprehensive, lacked confidence about recovering fully, and had adopted an attitude of resignation.

Now let us look at patients who showed only a moderate amount of anticipatory anxiety—those who had minor symptoms of emotional tension but who did not display outbursts of acute panic-like apprehensiveness. They were more like part-time worriers, occasionally preoccupied with fretful forebodings but quite capable of suppressing disquieting thoughts about the dire crisis that might be in store for them. Although those in the moderate fear group had as much postoperative pain as those in the other two groups, they showed a relative absence of emotional disturbances throughout the entire recovery period. Before an esophageal diverticulectomy, Mrs. R., a 62-year-old woman, verbalized numerous apprehensions about her health and the impending operation. The operation was needed, she said, to avoid "living a life of physical agony." And then there was the "mental agony from knowing it won't get better but might get worse if I don't have the operation." Postoperatively, Mrs. R. was highly cooperative in conforming to hospital routines,

and while convalescing she kept saying how fortunate she was to have "doctors that are the tops." While Mrs. R. did a considerable amount of mental rehearsing of potential dangers, her rehearsal led her to a high degree of awareness of reassuring features as well as of threatening ones: "There will be pain but it won't last long." In contrast, the low-anxiety patient was angry to discover he was in pain and the high-anxiety person complained of pain constantly. Conclude the researchers: The arousal of anticipatory fear and anxiety plays a causal role in the development of psychological stamina. In general, studies of this sort have shown the usefulness of psychological preparation.

**Paratroopers in training.** A group of paratroopers was tested for pre- and postflight anxiety levels, to examine the role played by anxiety in performance and in the ability to perform.<sup>24</sup> One 19-year-old boy, subject P.D., was given an initial anxiety rating of 0. He had little capacity for communication with himself or others, partly because of his limited cultural background (he had never graduated from high school in a small Georgia town), and partly because of his distinctive personality characteristics. At first he could not recognize his anxiety, although he was scared almost every time he jumped from a plane; his performance was rated poor. On one occasion he stated that he was doubtful he could jump again. It was at this time—when he could admit his anxiety overtly—that P.D. began to improve in his paratrooper training. It seems that the psychological loosening of this very tightly defended person—although accompanied by anxiety—facilitated his



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adaptation to stress: being able to discuss his concerns openly, he could reach out for advice and support from others.

Another jumper, P.K., showed a reciprocal relationship between anxiety and action in that during action his anxiety decreased. This bears out an old observation reexperienced by almost everyone: A high level of anticipatory anxiety is sharply reduced when action begins, especially if the actual stress is less than expected; as a result, during stress there is often an improved level of functioning. Thus, observed the researchers, a high level of anxiety elicited during a prestress interview may not be correctly predictive of a breakdown but rather an intensification of a danger signal.

The case of 18-year-old M.C. was characterized by his refusal to jump. The first day of training he reported that he wanted to jump but that his legs would not perform. The next day he was given another chance but was unable to accept it and quit his training, stating that his freezing was due to fear of heights. During an interview it was discovered that M.C. always tried to get into situations that would enable him to feel competent, although it seemed that these situations always produced feelings of great anxiety. He thought, for example, that his chances of getting through training were pretty good: "If a lot of these guys can make it, I think I can," he said with bravado. It was felt that his long-standing anxiety—he freely admitted having intense anxiety and his anxiety was rated higher than any other within all the groups—was worsened in the present situation. It was found that the men who failed training generally showed more stress responses on various measures. Commonly, they had not developed effective coping patterns, they had not developed a deep competence in any sphere, and they felt consistently vulnerable.

A.B. was a shy, insecure and self-conscious person who joined the airborne because an older brother had been a paratrooper. He was uncertain, easily embarrassed in relationships with others. During the base training period he remained by himself, did not buddy up with other trainees. By chance, an officer took a liking to this soldier, offered advice and praised him for efforts whenever his performance showed even small improvement. Midway during training week one, he received his first rating of "satisfactory" on a jump. At the same time, his behavior changed drastically; he became much more outgoing and began to interact with his buddies, especially through humor. For this soldier, the airborne trainings, though initially stressful, turned out to be therapeutic. Stressful experiences are difficult, but they have high potential for promoting personal growth.

**Disabled young men.** Two high-school boys were both in excellent health until their accidents: Basil was in a truck which overturned and he was totally paralyzed below the waist; Tony was rendered immediately a quadriplegic with only minimal gross hand function, the result of a diving accident which occurred while he was on vacation. The reactions of these teenagers to the acute anxiety of their situations and their development of new patterns of behavior were studied.<sup>25</sup>



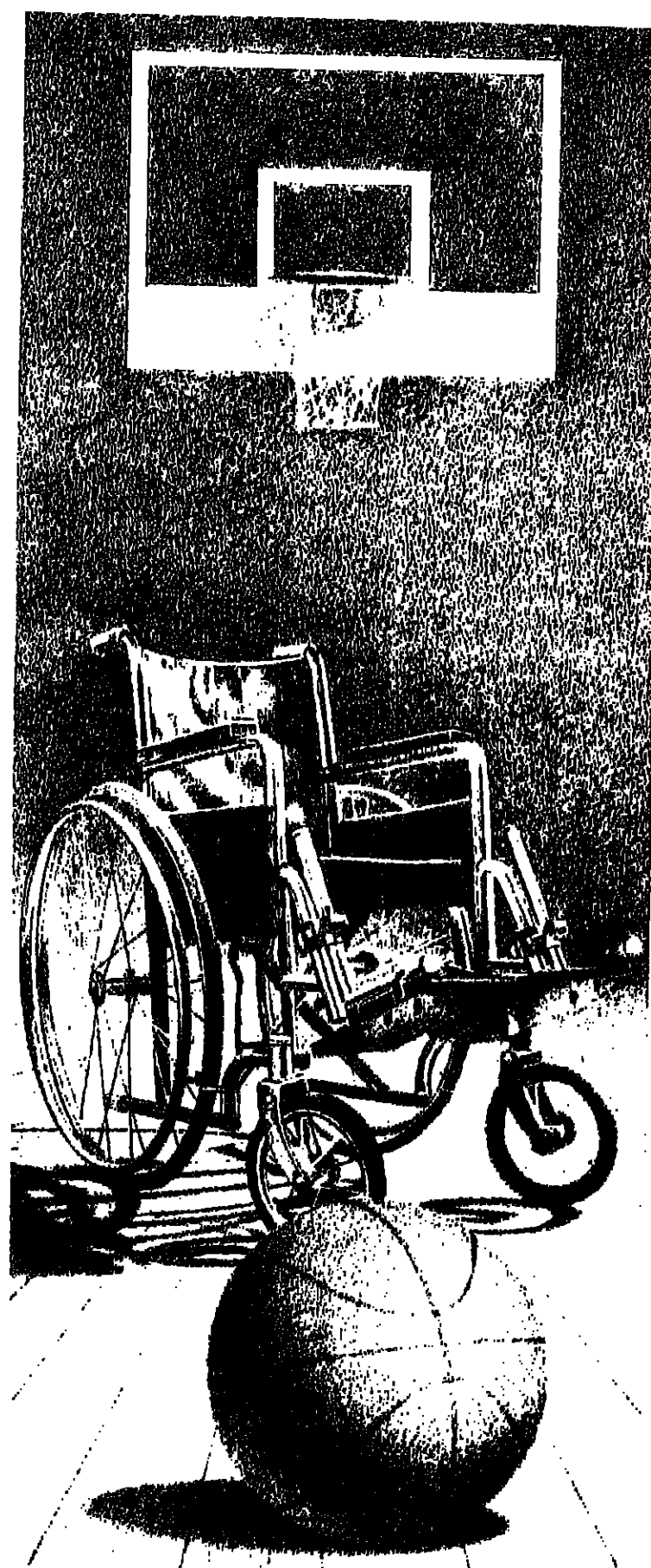


During the early part of his hospitalization, Basil expressed the firm conviction that he would walk again and initially he cooperated with the physical therapy program. His father was silent and apparently uncomprehending of his son's condition; his mother held magical expectations of his recovery. As disappointments occurred in rehabilitation therapy, Basil began to withdraw. He was no longer willing to work on rehabilitation therapy, neither was he cooperative with attempts to have a teacher work with him at the hospital. When the fall came and friends who had visited him during the summer departed for college, Basil became overtly depressed and more uncooperative. Pain without clear organic basis became almost constant and the patient spent much time in bed. After being discharged he eventually graduated from high school, had vague vocational plans but did nothing specific to pursue them. Basil apparently kept clinging to the hope that he might walk again.

Tony, a 17-year-old, was an athletic high school junior, active on the basketball team. On admission to the hospital he expressed the hope that he would walk again. His parents said they shared his hope—but despite their verbalized denial, they adjusted behaviorally to their son's condition by placing ramps in their home and widening doorways to accommodate a wheelchair. While still in the hospital Tony cooperated with rehabilitation personnel and managed to finish his junior year with the help of a visiting teacher. While he became periodically depressed over his vocational future he was able to discuss his depression with the rehabilitation staff. Initially he thought of pursuing his hobby of T.V. and radio repair, but physical limitations prevented him from performing the mechanical aspects of this work. In the hospital he became interested in history; after his release, he graduated from both high school and college. He then taught history in a high school, and fulfilled his interest in sports by coaching a local boys' club basketball team from his wheelchair.

Both Basil and Tony used defense mechanisms in the early part of their hospitalization as a highly adaptive method of buying time during the acute phase of their anxiety. But where Basil never could adapt to his disabled situation, Tony eventually managed his difficulties and coped with his anxiety. Basic to Tony's coping with his permanent disability was his awareness and acceptance that he was no longer sick—but different and limited. Only by working out a new basis for self-esteem that does not rest on physical prowess can the disabled, such as Tony, cope effectively with their affliction.

These three types of cases—surgery patients, paratroopers in training and disabled young men—show that specific coping strategies can be developed to handle major challenges of anxiety, but that excessive anxiety can jeopardize development of coping behavior.



The basic idea behind all of the therapies available is to help each of us cope with our problems on our own initiative, and in our own way.

## Relieving excessive anxiety.

Most of us try to deal with anxiety as best we can. At times we can do this with relative ease; at other times our anxiety mounts to uncomfortable proportions, until perhaps some fortuitous happening—a changed relationship, a different job, a vacation—helps ease the anxiety. At still other times, we can see no way out.

**It is not the anxiety itself but the way we handle it that constitutes the difference between emotional sickness and health.** Perhaps the easiest method for dealing with anxiety—but clearly not the best in the long term—is the use of defense mechanisms.<sup>27</sup> Avoidance of anxiety is often useful, but the price of persistent avoidance is likely to be the exclusion of new learning and the stunting of capacities to adapt to new situations. Other defenses such as laughter, compulsive working, frantic activity of any sort may serve to relieve the anxiety. But again, these maneuvers tend to be of short-term value; if sustained over many months, they may distract attention from the problem that has triggered the anxiety, obscuring it and thereby making its solution more difficult.

Instead of avoiding or repressing anxiety, a constructive way of dealing with anxiety is to confront it—to treat anxiety properly as a warning. Basically what this calls for is the use of cognitive functions, an open-minded assessment of the situation. Take the case of a young woman who was anxious about being accepted for college.<sup>28</sup> She had applied to several colleges, and much to her amazement was accepted by both "top" choices on the same day. Initially she was quite elated but soon she became extremely anxious as she faced the problem of making the choice between these two colleges. Within a few days, she grew almost obsessed by her dilemma and had difficulty sleeping and eating. She spoke with a counselor, pleading for someone to tell her which school to go to. Finally she recognized that no one but herself could make this choice. She decided to visit both schools and then make a direct personal evaluation. She spent time at both schools, visited the facilities, talked with some of the students and faculty. As a result of this expedition, she no longer judged the two colleges equal in relation to her interests, and she was easily able to choose one of them in preference to the other. As soon as she made this reality-based decision, she experienced a marked reduction in her anxiety.

Although there is some controversy over how we become repressors of anxiety—using a variety of avoidance mechanisms or sensitizers, approaching the threat and attempting to overcome it—some psychologists suggest that we are capable of both types of behavior.<sup>29</sup> Sensitizing behavior will occur when we face an anxiety-provoking situation which we feel able to handle. But if we face an anxiety-provoking situation which we feel to be overwhelming, then we may repress or distort the threat in some way so that it seems less severe. A student may not have any problems writing a three-page paper. The same student may have great anxieties and accordingly avoid work on a long, difficult term paper.

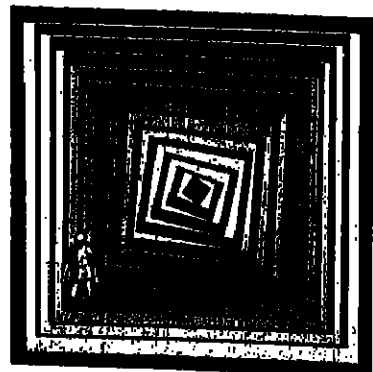
There are many forms of therapy for dealing with anxiety, ranging from long-term psychoanalysis to shorter-term therapies. In part, what these therapies do is give a person an opportunity to vent feelings. As deep feelings are expressed, often there is a relief of anxiety symptoms. Pharmacological therapy is also useful in some cases to lessen the level of anxiety to the point where a person can begin coping. While psychotropic drugs can facilitate communication with anxious persons, drug therapy is not directed at the problems of living that have triggered the anxiety. Accordingly, it should be used in cases of relatively intense anxiety as a temporary measure—a holding operation—to help the person get his or her coping responses underway.<sup>30</sup>

The basic idea behind all of the therapies available is to help each of us cope with our problems on our own initiative, and in our own way. Often this means helping us restore previous coping patterns that have been temporarily disrupted; sometimes it means helping us work out new patterns for dealing with problems unprecedented in our previous experience.

**Anxiety is a difficult and distressing experience. But it is also a special opportunity for new learning and personal development.**

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... a grid against which the primary physician can assess the adaptive strengths and weaknesses of his patients. In the light of this appraisal and against the highly varied backdrop of what constitutes competent coping and how it may develop and mature, he can then suggest and monitor relevant pathways for constructive change and action.

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Roche Laboratories is privileged to acknowledge David A. Hamburg, M.D., as over-all consultant to this series.

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Roche Laboratories is privileged to acknowledge Roy R. Grinker, Sr., M.D., as consultant to this particular issue.

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## Doctor's Debate Cont'd

Continued from page 7

neurological surgery and something approaching 1,500 lumbar disks operated leads me to the conclusion that early writers on the lumbar disk problem, such as Spurling, Semmes, and many others, are still correct in their emphasis on clinical diagnosis of surgical disk patients and the unreliability of myelography. I find that all too many of the younger neurosurgeons and most orthopedic surgeons who do disk surgery seem to feel that myelography is how one finds out "if the patient has a disk." This approach inevitably leads to operations on patients who don't have a herniated disk or are otherwise poor candidates for surgery. There are also other problems which must be recognized and appropriate management selected if the best results are to be achieved.

At least 90 per cent of my patients return to their former occupation without material residual symptoms. I find little difference in the compensable and noncompensable patients except in the degree to which the compensable patients emphasize their minor residual complaints. This correlates with studies done by Hamby and others years ago.

ALEXANDER C. JOHNSON, M.D.  
Montana Neurological Clinic  
Great Falls, Mont.

## Metapsychiatry and Noah Webster

The communication concerning "metapsychiatry" by Dr. Stanley R. Dean which appeared in the December 12, 1973, issue of MEDICAL TRIBUNE merits a response.

The statement was made therein that the term "metapsychiatry" was used to "designate the interface between psychiatry and mysticism." Later in the communication it appears that the word "mysticism" was used to encompass various aspects of the occult and of the psi phenomena. In the matter of semantics, it is important to define "mysticism."

In Webster's Third International Dictionary the word "mysticism" is defined as follows: "1. The experience of mystical union or direct communion with reality reported by mystics 2. a theory of mystical knowledge; the doctrine or belief that direct knowledge of God, of spiritual truth, of ultimate reality, or comparable matters is attainable through immediate intuition, insight, or illumination and in a way differing from ordinary sense perception or ratiocination 3. vague speculation; any theory postulating or based on the possibility of direct and intuitive acquisition of ineffable knowledge or power."

The use of the psi phenomena by the physician has long been considered to be outside the pale of medical ethics for the reason that the practicing physician is admonished in the Code of Ethics to practice his profession in a scientific manner. For the physician to do otherwise would be construed by the pontiffs of medicine to be in the nature of quackery. As a result, the field of the psi phenomena has been left largely to various exploiters, who have not hesitated to use it to their personal advantage.

I am very convinced that there are many physicians who are quite adept in the use of psi phenomena but who are very reluctant to admit to this fact. At the present time the psi phenomena are considered to be metaphysical, rather than being scientific, in nature. But it has become apparent to the writer that it is very difficult to draw the line between the utilization of the psi phenomena in making diagnoses which would tend to increase the diagnostic acumen of the clinician to the point where subliminal inputs are processed very rapidly and often without conscious awareness concerning the process.

The physician is supposed to treat the mind and the body that are dis-

eased, but how may it be possible to define the word "mind" in any way that would be other than by a metaphysical concept? Or for that matter, where is the psyche; what are its physical characteristics; and what is the nature of its physiology?

It is not the intention of the undersigned to be negativistic in the matter of the possibility of the acceptance of the psi phenomena by the ecclesiasts of the medical profession, but one should not fly in the face of four decades of one's experience by acting in the manner of the schizophrenic person by making the assumption that these self-appointed guardians of medical orthodoxy would not demand ample documentation by means of laboratory tests and by other means of scientific proofs in order for any physician to be able

to escape the opprobrium of such persons, who would not hesitate to apply sanctions against the proponents of such heresy. It would appear that there are such individuals who appear to have forgotten the Velikovsky Heresy, which has not yet been resolved.

Would the insurance companies be willing to accept such proponents of a medical heresy as being good risks in the matter of malpractice? What physician would care to defend himself in a court of law on the basis of his ability in matters that concern the psi phenomenon?

It would appear that at this moment the climate is not right for the promulgation of metapsychiatry as an accepted modality for diagnosis or for therapy in psychiatry.

CONRAD A. LOEHNER, M.D.  
Upland, Calif.



How soon will she drop in with a recurrent cystitis...

Before prescribing, please consult complete product information, a summary of which follows:  
Indications: Nonobstructed urinary tract infections (mainly cystitis, pyelitis, pyelonephritis) due to susceptible organisms. IMPORTANT NOTE: In vitro sensitivity tests not always reliable; must be corroborated with bacteriological and clinical response. Add aminobenzazole acid to follow-up culture media. Increasing frequency of resistant organisms limits usefulness of antibacterial agents, especially in chronic and recurrent urinary infections. Maximum safe total sulfonamide blood level, 20 mg/100 ml; measure levels as variations may occur.  
Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to sulfonamides; infants less than 2 months of age; pregnancy at term and during the nursing period.

Warnings: Safety in pregnancy not established. Do not use for Group A beta-hemolytic streptococcal infections, as sequelae (rheumatic fever, glomerulonephritis) are not prevented. Deaths reported from hypersensitivity reactions, agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia and other blood dyscrasias. Sore throat, fever, pallor, purpura or jaundice may be early indications of serious blood disorders. CBC and urinalysis with careful microscopic examination should be performed frequently.  
Precautions: Use cautiously in patients with impaired renal or hepatic function, severe allergy or bronchial asthma. Hemolysis, frequently dose-related, may occur in glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase-deficient patients. Maintain adequate fluid intake to prevent crystalluria and stone formation.

Success in preventing recurrence of urinary tract infection usually depends on success in treating the initial infection. And that in turn is closely linked to factors of proper drug, proper dosage, and proper length of therapy. Much of the effectiveness of an antibacterial agent used to treat an acute nonobstructed urinary tract infection depends, in fact, upon proper length of therapy. As you know, it is potentially hazardous for a patient to discontinue her medication too soon; on the other hand, overtreatment has no advantage and may even cause adverse reactions.

**Total therapy: 14 days**  
Some recent studies suggest that therapy in acute nonobstructed urinary tract infections should be continued for

10 to 14 days even if patients become asymptomatic in 2 or 3 days, as they often do. After inadequate treatment, of course, survival of bacteria can cause a quick recurrence of infection.

The problem of persuading a patient to complete the full course of therapy remains difficult. Perhaps agreeing on the date for a follow-up examination at the end of medication may be the most effective way of convincing a less than enthusiastic patient to continue therapy even after she becomes asymptomatic.

As a urinary antibacterial, Gantrisin (sulfisoxazole) Roche offers your patient important advantages, some of which may help increase patient cooperation.

## Blue Cross Declines Payment to Outpatients

Continued from page 1

patients \$138 a day for a room and the hotel charges are less than one-third of that, Dr. Galin asked Blue Cross to pay for the hotel room.

Blue Cross refused. Dr. Galin recounted his meeting with Blue Cross's Dr. Peter Rogatz for MEDICAL TRIBUNE: "Dr. Rogatz was very honest. He said, if you have 20 beds but you use only 10 and put another 10 patients in a hotel, you can still fill your 20 beds from the pool of unnecessary admissions or from longer stays."

"He said that Blue Cross would be happy to pay for hotel bills if we simultaneously reduced the number of beds in the hospital."

Dr. Galin then went to Flower Fifth Avenue's administrators and asked them to close beds.

"They wanted literally to kill me" after hearing the suggestion, he related. "But the patient would get much better medical care on an outpatient basis because I do them a lot more good in my office, where I have all the equipment, than I do when I walk into their rooms in the hospital."

### Tendency to Fill Beds

Dr. Rogatz confirmed the discussion with Dr. Galin and told MEDICAL TRIBUNE that if outpatient surgery costs were to be covered by Blue Cross, the surplus of inpatient facilities would increase—and "where there is

a surplus of beds there is a tendency to fill them, willy-nilly, and to do unnecessary surgery."

"We're going to have to close some inpatient surgical facilities. My whole position with any doctor or hospital is that we'll look for a way to finance outpatient surgery if you'll look for a way to cut inpatient service."

"For instance, set up an ambulatory care program right in the space where the [excess] beds are."

But he admitted that Blue Cross has been unable to convince local hospitals to close surplus facilities.

Nor has it been exceptionally successful in reducing unnecessary hospitalization, because "we may know we're being sold a bill of goods but

we can't prove it. The doctor can cook up [reasons] to justify hospitalization, and if we deny payment, it's the patient who becomes the victim."

The president of the national Blue Cross Association, Walter J. McNeer, told MEDICAL TRIBUNE that outpatient surgical procedures and separate facilities for such surgery "are desirable to the extent that they are qualified facilities and not additional to existing beds. They should substitute for hospital beds."

"But I doubt whether we're going to pay for motel rooms. The lack of control over a situation like that is obvious."

"There is a need for [effective] legislation to control the number of beds."

"We have not recognized the damage to the public health that is done by the existence of unnecessary beds," Dr. Rogatz warned, adding, "Proper regulatory authority ought to exist."

"I recognize the merits" of Dr. Galin's proposal, and "we will look at it very seriously," he said.

## Osteosarcoma: Transfer Factor Prolongs Lives

Continued from page 1

Stern Symposium on Perspectives in Virology.

Lymphocytes from osteosarcoma patients themselves, as expected, showed minimal cytotoxicity to cells in tests.

Of more than 60 normal controls—persons who had not had household contact with osteosarcoma patients (although some were from households containing patients with other types of malignancy)—only one had lymphocytes with significant cytotoxicity for osteosarcoma cells, and this person was an undertaker.

By contrast, approximately 20 per cent of the close contacts of the osteosarcoma patients had cellular immunity to osteosarcoma cells but not to any of the control cells used in the tests (matching fibroblasts, fibrosarcoma cells, and hypernephroma cells).

Dr. Fudenberg said the study also demonstrated the potential value of transfer factor in treating these patients and provided a guideline for better selection of donors.

The cytotoxicity assay used to test lymphocytes was developed by Dr. Alan S. Levin, a coinvestigator at the medical center. Tumor cells to be tested are labeled with Cr<sup>51</sup> and then incubated with donor lymphocytes. Cell killing is measured by chromium release.

A chromium release greater than 35 per cent was the criterion for cellular immunity. This significant cytotoxicity was observed in 20 per cent of close contacts of patients. Some of these normal donors had greater than 50 per cent chromium release, while fewer than 1 per cent of the controls showed a release of more than 7 per cent.

Treatment of osteosarcoma patients with the tumor-specific transfer factor obtained from "hyperimmune" donors causes a rise in cytotoxicity, the investigator said. Since maximum activity is the goal of therapy, a 50 per cent release is now considered the minimum for donor material.

### High urinary and plasma levels

Therapeutic urinary and plasma concentrations are usually reached in 2 to 3 hours and can be maintained on the recommended 4 to 8 Gm/day dosage schedule that's convenient for almost all patients.

### Generally good tolerance

Gantrisin (sulfisoxazole) Roche causes relatively few undesirable reactions, and serious toxic reactions are rare. Minor reactions are comparatively infrequent, but may include nausea, headache and vomiting. Gantrisin may usually be given safely, even for prolonged periods, in the treatment of chronic or recurrent nonobstructed cystitis, pyelitis or pyelonephritis due to E. coli and other susceptible organisms.

(See Important Note in summary of product information.) Complete blood counts and urinalyses, with microscopic examination, should be performed frequently.

### High solubility

Gantrisin (sulfisoxazole) Roche is one of the most soluble of all sulfonamides, with both free and acetylated forms highly soluble in the commonly encountered urinary pH range of 5.5 to 6.5. Urine levels have been detected in 60 minutes; therapeutic levels are usually reached in 2 to 3 hours. About 90% of a single dose is excreted in 24 to 48 hours. As with all sulfonamides, adequate fluid intake must be maintained.

### Economy

Average cost of therapy is still only about 6½¢ per tablet.

if she drops out of her therapy too soon?

For acute, chronic or recurrent nonobstructed cystitis, pyelitis, or pyelonephritis due to susceptible organisms.

begin with  
**Gantrisin**  
sulfisoxazole/Roche

Usual adult dosage: 4 to 8 tablets stat, 2 to 4 tablets q.i.d.

Adverse Reactions: Blood dyscrasias: Agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia, thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, hemolytic anemia, purpura, hypoprothrombinemia and methemoglobinemia. Allergic reactions: Erythema multiforme (Stevens-Johnson syndrome), generalized skin eruptions, epidermal necrolysis, urticaria, serum sickness, pruritus, exfoliative dermatitis, anaphylactoid reactions, periorbital edema, conjunctival and scleral injection, photosensitization, arthralgia and allergic myocarditis; Gastrointestinal reactions: Nausea, eructus, abdominal pains, hepatitis, diarrhea, anorexia, pancreatitis and stomatitis; C.A.S. reactions: Headache, peripheral neuritis, mental depression, convulsions, ataxia, hallucinations, vertigo and insomnia. Miscellaneous reactions: Drug fever, chills and toxic nephrosis with oliguria and anuria. Parotitis nodosa

and L.E. phenomenon have occurred. Due to certain chemical similarities with some gollitoxins, diuretics (acetazolamide, flixidol) and oral hypoglycemic agents, sulfonamides have caused rare instances of goiter production, diabetes and hypoglycemia as well as thyroid malignancies in rats following long-term administration. Cross-sensitivity with these agents may exist. Supplied: Tablets containing 0.5 Gm sulfisoxazole.

Roche Laboratories  
Division of Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.  
Nutley, N.J. 07110

## Isotope Scanning Provides Details Of Acute Infarct

*Continued from page 1*

stable tetracycline labeled with technetium-99m. In dog studies, using a scintillation scanner, the investigators found that the concentration of the radioisotope within infarcted tissue could be detected as early as four hours after infarction. At 24 hours the concentration reached in the necrotic myocardium is "seven times higher than in the normal ventricle," the group reported.

The clinical series at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital included 20 heart patients in a coronary care unit and eight patients with no evidence of chronic or acute ischemic heart disease who served as controls. Fourteen of the CCU group had clinical evidence of an AMI, including 10 with transmural infarctions and four with a non-transmural infarct. The CCU patients were studied at bedside, following intravenous injection of the labeled tetracycline, within 24-48 hours of admission.

### No Focal Myocardial Uptake

"In the 28 patients without evidence of cardiac disease," said Dr. Holman, "no focal myocardial uptake was seen 24 hours after intravenous injection of Tc-99m-tetracycline. Focal uptake of [the labeled antibiotic] was present in all 14 patients with evidence of acute transmural or acute nontransmural infarctions on the initial examination 24 hours after injection."

In five patients with an equivocal diagnosis, the scan was normal in three; it was normal also in one patient with a final diagnosis of recurrent arrhythmia.

Dr. Holman explained that scans made earlier than 24 hours after injection were unsatisfactory because the blood levels of the circulating tagged antibiotic were still too high to permit accurate separation of the cardiac pool from the area of infarction.

"It was only on the 24-hour scintiscan, when blood levels had fallen to less than 25 per cent of the injected dose, that focal areas of increased Tc-99m-tetracycline in the myocardium could be accurately identified."

A significant finding was the observation that focal myocardial activity was maximal at between one and three days after the onset of chest pain and could not be detected at three to 15 days. The finding suggests that the test is useful in distinguishing a fresh infarct from an old one, Dr. Holman said.

Coauthors were Drs. Guillermo A. Cook, Michael Lesch, Franklin Zweiman, and John Temite; Mrinal K. Dewangee, Ph.D.; and Drs. Bernard Lown and Richard Gorlin.

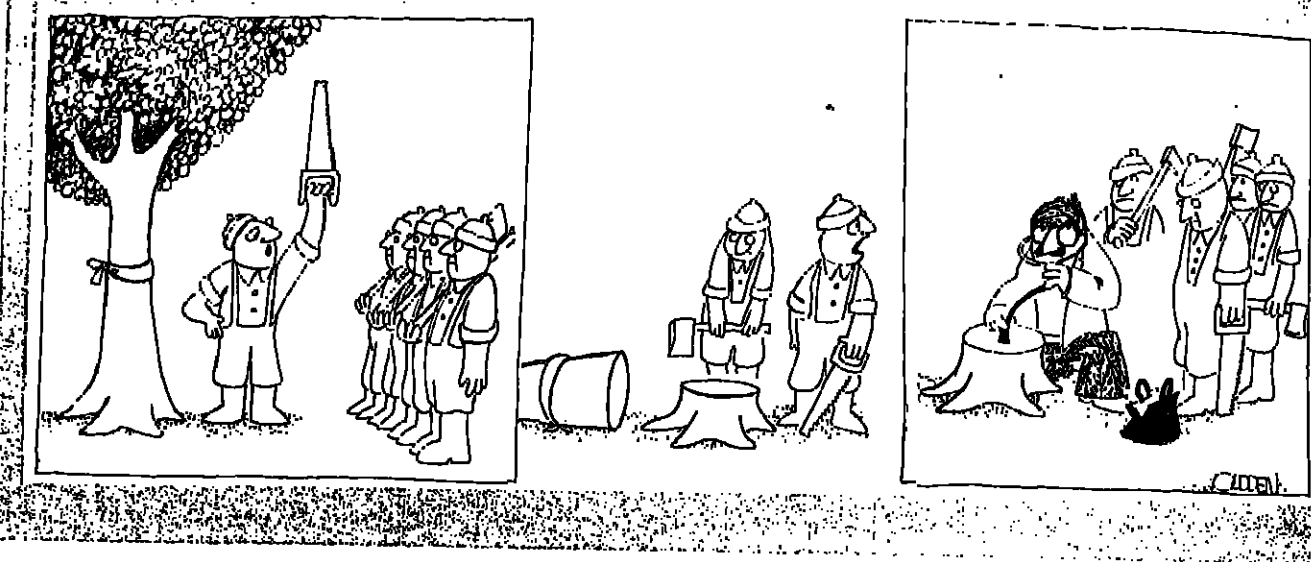
### Abortion Policy Stands

*Medical Tribune Report*

LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y.—The Medical Society of the State of New York has reaffirmed its 1970 position that all terminations of pregnancy beyond the 12th week should be performed only in a hospital on an inpatient basis.

## Clinical Trials

by Olden



# the long-range analgesic

in chronic pain: continued relief without risk of tolerance

*Continued from page 11*

our children and their children, it is essential that the emotionalism about abortion and other forms of conception control be superseded by the common sense necessitated by the cold, hard facts.

C. ROBERT SWANBECK, M.D.  
Fresno, Calif.

### Belling the Gun-1

According to Dr. Stefan A. Pasternack ("Current Opinion," January 23) "the general availability of handguns facilitates violent crimes." Likewise, the general availability of intoxicants facilitates the abuse of the use of intoxicants; or again, the general availability of automobiles facilitates the death on the highways, and so on.

The problem of abuse of use cannot be solved by confiscating or restricting

the object or material man uses to abuse himself or others. The first recorded violent crime was perpetrated by Cain. Did Cain murder his brother because there was a stone or club nearby? (Scripture does not elaborate.)

Man has come a long way since the time of Cain, but he continues to do himself in because of his own perversity.

RICHARD B. HOMAN, M.D.  
Cincinnati, Ohio

### Belling the Gun-2

Dr. Stefan A. Pasternack's article on "Handguns and Homicide," while informative, does not mention, curiously, a single word about proper training in

firearm safety for owners of guns and control of those who should not own guns.

We hear daily, "Hand guns kill more friends than enemies." Many responsible citizens keep their children away from firearms "to make it a safer world for children." Is this trend indeed safer—can recent history teach us anything?

Maj. Spencer Chapman, who fought in Malaya in World War II, reminisces in his excellent book *The Jungle is Neutral* on the profound bewilderment and inadequacy for armed resistance of the Malay, once fierce warriors, who had been trained by the British Colonial Administration to pacific submission.

On the other hand, confronted with protracted warfare, the gentle and peaceful Vietnamese, who were thought by the French to be totally lacking in soldierly behavior, proved themselves otherwise. Would 6,000-000 Jews have perished had they had the know-how of the contemporary citizens of Israel?

For the moment, it is not likely that firearms or violence will be eliminated from among us, and it is reasonable to conclude that those who so desire should be provided with adequate teaching and training in the safe and lawful handling of firearms.

Outlawing firearms has not worked out to provide peace in Northern Ireland. Outlawing firearms would have doomed Israel at its birth.

Q. DABBERT, M.D.  
San Diego, Calif.

## Greece Begins Drive On Echinococcosis

*Medical Tribune World Service*

ATHENS—Greece has launched a nationwide educational campaign to alert the public to the danger of echinococcosis.

The extension of hospital services has revealed that the number of persons infected with the larval form of *Echinococcus granulosus* has been increasing in the last 10 years. Latest figures show that Greece's incidence of surgical cases, around 17 per 100,000, is the second highest in the world, exceeded only by Uruguay's 18.2 per 100,000.

The high morbidity in this country is attributed mainly to the great number of sheep and dogs, the high rate of their infection, and the lack of intensive control measures. The only known host of *E. granulosus*, Greek health authorities said, is the dog, and, as an intermediate host, the sheep tops the list of domestic animals.

### Medicine on Stamps

N. A. Semashko

ПОЧТА СССР 1964



Nikolai Aleksandrovitch Semashko (1874-1949), famous public health worker, was honored by the Soviet Union with a stamp in 1964. His political interest in the health welfare of workers in the Orlov and Samara regions caused his expulsion after the 1905 revolution. He worked with Lenin in Switzerland, returning to Russia in 1917 for active participation in the Revolution. Under Lenin and, later, Stalin, he served as the People's Commissar of Public Health and organized the Soviet Public Health System.

Text: Dr. Joseph Kler  
Stamp: Miklos Publications, Inc., New York

Talwin® Tablets can be compared to codeine in analgesic efficacy. For patients who require potent analgesia for prolonged periods, Talwin can provide consistent long-range relief without risk of tolerance.

- Comparable to codeine in analgesic efficacy: one 50 mg. Talwin Tablet appears equivalent in analgesic effect to 60 mg. (1 gr.) of codeine. Onset of significant analgesia usually occurs within 15 to 30 minutes. Analgesia is usually maintained for 3 hours or longer.

- Tolerance not a problem: tolerance to the analgesic effect of Talwin Tablets has not been reported, and no significant changes in clinical laboratory parameters attributable to the drug have been reported.

- Dependence rarely a problem: during three years of wide clinical use, only a few cases of dependence have been reported. In prescribing Talwin for chronic use, the physician should take precautions to avoid increases in dose by the patient and to prevent the use of the drug in anticipation of pain rather than for the relief of pain. (See complete discussion of Warnings under Brief Summary.)

- Generally well tolerated by most patients: infrequently cause decrease in blood pressure or tachycardia; rarely cause respiratory depression or urinary retention; seldom cause diarrhea or constipation. If dizziness, lightheadedness, nausea or vomiting are encountered, these effects may decrease or disappear after the first few doses. (See complete discussion of Adverse Reactions and a Brief Summary of other Prescribing Information.)

50mg. Tablets

**Talwin®**  
brand of  
**pentazocine**  
(as hydrochloride)

in moderate to severe pain

Talwin® Tablets brand of pentazocine (as hydrochloride)  
Analgesic for Oral Use—Brief Summary

Indications: For the relief of moderate to severe pain.

Contraindications: Talwin should not be administered to patients who are hypersensitive to it.

Warnings: Drug Dependence. There have been instances of psychological and physical dependence on parenteral Talwin in patients with a history of drug abuse and, rarely, in patients without such a history. Abrupt discontinuance following the extended use of parenteral Talwin has resulted in withdrawal symptoms. There have been a few reports of dependence and of withdrawal symptoms with orally administered Talwin. Patients with a history of drug dependence should be under close supervision while receiving Talwin orally.

In prescribing Talwin for chronic use, the physician should take precautions to avoid increases in dose by the patient and to prevent the use of the drug in anticipation of pain rather than for the relief of pain.

Head Injury and Increased Intracranial Pressure. The respiratory depressant effects of Talwin and its potential for elevating cerebrospinal fluid pressure may be markedly exaggerated in the presence of head injury, other intracranial lesions, or a preexisting increase in intracranial pressure. Furthermore, Talwin can produce effects which may obscure the clinical course of patients with head injuries. In such patients, Talwin must be used with extreme caution and only if its use is deemed essential.

Use in Pregnancy. Safe use of Talwin during pregnancy (other than labor) has not been established. Animal reproduction studies have not demonstrated teratogenic or embryotoxic effects. However, Talwin should be administered to pregnant patients (other than labor) only when, in the judgment of the physician, the potential benefits outweigh the possible hazards. Patients receiving Talwin during labor have experienced no adverse effects other than those that occur with commonly used analgesics. Talwin should be used with caution in women delivering premature infants.

Acute CNS Manifestations. Patients receiving therapeutic doses of Talwin have experienced, in rare instances, hallucinations (usually visual), disorientation, and confusion which have cleared spontaneously within a period of hours. The mechanism of this reaction is not known. Such patients should be very closely observed and vital signs checked. If the drug is re-instituted it should be done with caution since the acute CNS manifestations may recur.

Use in Children. Because clinical experience in children under 12 years of age is limited, administration of Talwin in this age group is not recommended. Ambulatory Patients. Since sedation, dizziness, and occasional euphoria have been noted, ambulatory patients should be warned not to operate machinery, drive cars, or unnecessarily expose themselves to hazards.

Precautions: Certain Respiratory Conditions. Although respiratory depression has rarely been reported after oral administration of Talwin, the drug should be administered with caution to patients with respiratory depression from any cause, severely limited respiratory reserve, severe bronchial asthma and other obstructive respiratory conditions, or cyanosis.

Impaired Renal or Hepatic Function. Decreased metabolism of the drug by the liver in extensive liver disease may predispose to accumulation of side effects. Although laboratory tests have not indicated that Talwin causes or increases renal or hepatic impairment, the drug should be administered with caution to patients with such impairment.

Myocardial Infarction. As with all drugs, Talwin should be used with caution in patients with myocardial infarction who have nausea or vomiting. Biliary Surgery. Until further experience is gained with the effects of Talwin on the sphincter of Oddi, the drug should be used with caution in patients about to undergo surgery of the biliary tract.

Patients Receiving Narcotics. Talwin is a mild narcotic antagonist. Some patients previously given narcotics, including meperidine for the daily treatment of narcotic dependence, have experienced withdrawal symptoms after receiving Talwin.

CNS Effect. Caution should be used when Talwin is administered to patients prone to seizures; seizures have occurred in a few such patients in association with the use of Talwin although no cause and effect relationship has been established.

Adverse Reactions: Reactions reported after oral administration of Talwin include gastrointestinal: nausea, vomiting, infrequently constipation; and rarely abdominal distress, anorexia, diarrhea. CNS effects: dizziness, lightheadedness, sedation, euphoria, headache, infrequently weakness, disturbed dreams, insomnia, syncope, visual blurring and focusing difficulty, hallucinations (see Acute CNS Manifestations under WARNINGS); and rarely tremor, irritability, excitement, thinitis. Autonomic: sweating; infrequently flushing; and rarely chills. Allergic: infrequently rash; and rarely urticaria, edema of the face, conjunctivitis. Infrequently decrease in blood pressure, tachycardia. Hematologic: rarely depression of white blood cells (especially granulocytes), usually reversible and usually associated with diseases or other drugs which are known to cause such changes, moderate transient eosinophilia. Other: rarely respiratory depression, urinary retention, toxic epidermal necrolysis.

Dosage and Administration: Adults. The usual initial adult dose is 1 tablet (50 mg.) every three or four hours. This may be increased to 2 tablets (100 mg.) when needed. Total daily dosage should not exceed 600 mg.

When antinflammatory or antipyretic effects are desired in addition to analgesia, aspirin can be administered concomitantly with Talwin.

Children Under 12 Years of Age. Since clinical experience in children under 12 years of age is limited, administration of Talwin in this age group is not recommended.

Duration of Therapy. Patients with chronic pain who have received Talwin orally for prolonged periods have not experienced withdrawal symptoms even when administration was abruptly discontinued (see WARNINGS). No tolerance to the analgesic effect has been observed. Laboratory tests of blood and urine and of liver and kidney function have revealed no significant abnormalities after prolonged administration of Talwin.

Overdose Manifestations. Clinical experience with Talwin overdosage has been insufficient to define the signs of this condition.

Treatment. Oxygen, intravenous fluids, vasopressors, and other supportive measures should be employed as indicated. Assisted or controlled ventilation should also be considered. Although nalorphine and levallorphan are not effective antidotes for respiratory depression due to overdosage or unusual sensitivity to Talwin, paraldehyde (Narcane), available through Ende Laboratories, is a specific and effective antagonist.

Talwin is not subject to narcotic controls.

How Supplied: Tablets, peach color, scored. Each tablet contains Talwin (brand of pentazocine) as hydrochloride equivalent to 50 mg. base. Solules of 100.

Winthrop Laboratories, New York, N.Y. 10016

Winthrop



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**The patients were  
veterans who thought  
all their battles  
were over...**



عنوان الفصل